

# \$10M IN COCAINE SEIZED AT HALIFAX PORT, PG5

**LASIK MD**  
VISION  
LASER VISION  
CORRECTION  
Starting at  
**\$490** /eye\*  
\* Certain conditions apply.  
1-866-999-0435  
www.lasikmd.com

The world's largest global newspaper  
**metro**®  
HALIFAX • WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 12-14, 2010  
metronews.ca

Hallmark  
Sunday  
is  
Valentine's  
Day  
Visit your nearest  
Hallmark Gold Crown Store

## Recession cuts airport traffic 4.5% in 2009

**TRAVEL** The economic downtown impacted the number of passengers coming through the Halifax Stanfield International Airport last year.

In figures released Thursday, the airport said passenger traffic was down 4.5 per cent from its record total one year earlier. In 2009, the airport served 3,417,164 travellers.

The breakdown of numbers saw domestic traffic dip 4.3 per cent, transborder traffic off by 6.4 per cent and international passengers down 4.1 per cent.

On the plus side, the airport expects a financial surplus for the year and is calling for overall traffic to increase by 2.6 per cent for 2010.

METRO HALIFAX

## News on the Move

**What's this barcode for?**  
Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3



## Vancouver Games

### Countdown to 2010

Follow Metro's coverage leading up to the 2010 Winter Olympics.

- Today — Organizers see these Games as a nation-building event, page 15



**On the web** Visit [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca) for news updates



Torchbearer Michael Tchao jumps as he carries the Olympic flame during the Olympic torch relay at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, B.C., on Thursday. The Olympic flame is on a 106-day journey across Canada in the longest domestic torch relay in Olympic history. It will end with the lighting of the Olympic cauldron at the opening ceremonies Friday.

# No inquiry into MLA spending

**PAUL MCLEOD**  
paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

**Premier Darrell Dexter will not set up an inquiry to look into political expenses.**

The recent report by auditor general Jacques Lapointe only examines expenses from 2006 to June '09. The last expense prior to this audit was 15 years ago. Lapointe also couldn't audit the up to \$48,000 in non-receipted allowances MLAs have every year because there is no paper trail. An inquiry could require MLAs to explain what they spent, but Dexter said Thursday that isn't needed.

"The purpose of an inquiry is to get a result, to get recommendations. And in fact we already have the recommendations that have been put forward by the auditor general," he said, adding work has begun to overhaul the system. "What is done is done.

We need to make sure we have something in place that works for all concerned," he said.

Dexter rejected having police look at egregious expenses, saying the system limped along for years with rules "so broad and so porous that these things were allowed."

Yet Dexter cited those same rules to explain why he expensed a briefcase costing \$359 before taxes, which most professions

**312** Metro has crunched the numbers and December is clearly the month of choice when it comes to red-flagged expenses. A total of 312 were highlighted in the auditor general's report for the last month of the calendar year.

**Full story, page 3**

would call a personal item.

"This was a legitimate expense that was authorized under the guidelines," he said. "It's just a functional piece of equipment as far as I'm concerned."

Finance Minister Graham Steele confirmed the speaker could call an Internal Economy Board Meeting at any time to change the rules and demand receipts for all expenses.

But Speaker Charlie Parker said that won't happen yet. Parker said he does plan an IEB meeting in the next couple weeks, but the only change on the books is banning members from expensing meals on days they get an \$84 food per diem.

Parker said they're waiting on recommendations from former speaker Art Donahoe, who Dexter charged with figuring out new rules, before going any further.

Donahoe's full report is due in July, but he said his preliminary recommendations will be released as soon as the end of this month.

All Specials While Quantities Last. WEEKEND SPECIALS FRI-SUN Seafood packed for shipment and travel

**Fisherman's Market: Bringing you Quality, Service, Variety and Value since 1948.**

Fresh Haddock Fillets (never frozen) (8oz+) Pin Bone In 4.69lb   Boned 4.99lb	Fresh Haddock Pin Bone In 3.99lb   Boned 4.49lb	Fresh Haddock Bits 3.49lb	Frozen Shark Steaks 1.99lb	Frozen Whole Dressed Arctic Char 2.99lb (1-3lb Avg)	Fresh Atlantic Halibut Steaks (Med-Large Steaks) 9.99lb (Frozen)	Seabright Smoked Salmon Bits 2.99lb (Coldsmoked) (Frozen)
Shrimp -Raw, Peeled & Deveined (Frozen) 31/40ct 21/25ct <small>WHILE SUPPLIES LAST</small> 6.99lb   7.99lb	Live Crab Jonah Snow Jumbo Dungeness 1.99lb   4.99lb   9.99lb (2-3lb Avg)	Cooked Snow Crab Meat (Frozen) (8oz) 10.99/pkg	Live Marketsize Lobsters (2 claw) Commercial Grade #1 Hardshells (1-1.5lb Avg) 5.99lb   6.99lb   7.49lb	<small>Choice Grade #1 Hardshells (1.5lb Avg)</small>	<small>HAPPY VALENTINES DAY FROM MANAGEMENT AND STAFF!</small>	<b>FISHERMAN'S MARKET</b> EST. 1948 <small>Fine Quality Seafood &amp; Lobster</small>
<b>Fisherman's Market 607 Bedford Hwy. 443-3474</b>	<b>HOURLS: Mon. - Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun. 11am-6pm</b>	<b>Gift Certificates &amp; Party Trays Available</b>				

Atlantic Free Daily Newspapers Inc., operating as Metro Halifax 3260 Barrington Street, Suite 102, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3K 0B5. Publisher: Greg Lutes

# Valentine's

just the two of us... this Sunday February 14th!



GIVENCHY PLAY INTENSE, Eau de Toilette Spray, 100 mL \$87.

GIVENCHY ANGE OU DÉMON LE SECRET, Eau de Parfum, 50 mL \$85.

ONLY AT THE BAY

THIERRY MUGLER ANGEL, Eau de Parfum Refillable Spray, 75 mL \$214.

JADORE BY DIOR, Eau de Parfum, 100 mL \$122.

THIERRY MUGLER A'MEN, Eau de Toilette Spray, 100 mL \$92.

Give the gift of fragrance from some of our very best.

**20X** Hbc Rewards Credit Points with any men's or women's fragrance purchase from the **House of Dior, Givenchy or Thierry Mugler** when you use your Hbc<sup>®</sup> MasterCard<sup>®</sup> or Hbc Credit Card.

Friday February 12th to Sunday February 14th.

Sign-up for additional exclusive on-line offers.  
[thebay.com](http://thebay.com)

the  Bay

\*Total Credit points = 20 x (dollar amount x 50). Credit points will be earned in the usual amount, i.e. 50 points per dollar. In other words, you will receive 1050 points per dollar spent. This offer cannot be combined with any other bonus offer. If you refund the purchase(s) made in connection with this offer, points will be reduced by the bonus amount, using the same formula. Terms and conditions of the Hbc Rewards program found online at [www.hbc.com/rewards](http://www.hbc.com/rewards) apply to this offer.

<sup>®</sup> Registered trademark of Hudson's Bay Company. <sup>®</sup> Registered trademark of MasterCard International Incorporated. Used pursuant to license.



# Local



## fantastic CITY

Look what city is leading now...

HALIFAX FANS  
123OTTAWA FANS  
148TORONTO FANS  
189CALGARY FANS  
156EDMONTON FANS  
59VANCOUVER FANS  
88

Become a Facebook fan for a chance to win airfare to any Metro city in Canada.

\*Total number of fans as of 4:30 PM yesterday. Numbers shown are based on specified criteria. Become a FAN at [www.facebook.com/metrohalifax](http://www.facebook.com/metrohalifax)

m.metronews.ca



Scan this barcode for more Local news on your smartphone. Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of this page.

### News in brief

**CORRECTION** A story in Wednesday's edition of Metro Halifax mistakenly said Progressive Conservative Leader Karen Casey had expensed five TVs. The correct information was she expensed five computers.

METRO HALIFAX

### Ousted minister 'honourable'

**APPOINTMENT** A former Nova Scotia cabinet minister who was expelled from the legislature two decades ago for cheating on his expenses will get to use the title "honourable" in front of his name.

Billy Joe MacLean has been named to Nova Scotia's Executive Council by Lt.-Gov. Mayann Francis.

MacLean was a cabinet minister in the Conservative government of John Buchanan when he pleaded guilty in 1986 to submitting forged expense claims worth \$22,000.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

metronews.ca

What's online today.

**Video** Meet Lori Nichol, choreographer to some of the world's top figure skaters, including Canada's Patrick Chan

ADVERTISE TODAY!  
1 888 91 metro (63876)

NATHAN TAYLOR/METRO HALIFAX

Timberlea-Prospect MLA Bill Estabrooks answers questions from reporters in this file photo from last month. Estabrooks' expense claims are the lowest of any MLA and he thinks MLAs should have to show receipts for all expenses.

## MLAs must answer for 'dumb moves': Minister

Estabrooks says spending an 'embarrassment'

PAUL MCLEOD

paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

### Expenses

• Former Tory cabinet minister Carolyn Bolivar-Getson said Thursday she is returning questionable items she had expensed in office. Among them are a generator, computers, digital cameras, desks, printers, and a TV. Former Tory minister Len Goucher, who had the highest expense total, told media Thursday he refutes some of the auditor general's report and will release a statement.

used desk.

"I have no need for a loveseat in my constituency office," he said. "I have no need for an expensive camera."

Initially all MLAs asked by Metro, including the three party leaders, said they did-

n't believe anyone deliberately padded their expenses. As more and more embarrassing items came out they began simply saying it was up to individuals to defend their purchases.

Estabrooks told reporters he doesn't believe there's a link between plush offices and getting re-elected. He believes MLAs should have to show receipts for all expenses.

"This is a huge embarrassment. It's an embarrassment for us as elected officials because we're all tarred by the same brush," he said.

Estabrooks said his colleagues are generally "pretty responsible people, but some of those people have made some dumb moves and now they have to be answerable for them."

**EXPENSE RULES** Former Yarmouth MLA Richard Hurlbert may have resigned but he's still proving to be a headache for the Tories.

On Thursday allnovascotia.com reported Hurlbert for years took between \$16,000 and \$20,000 for an annual apartment allowance, despite living with his wife in her HRM home.

The system didn't require receipts to prove Hurlbert had an apartment before he took the money.

Tory Leader Karen Casey said Thursday she couldn't speak to the specifics of Hurlbert's case but is working to change the system.

"I don't believe it's a breach of the rules but it may be one of those rules that needs to be changed."

Hurlbert resigned earlier

**\$270,898**

spent by MLAs in the three Decembers between July 2006 and June 2009 in a total of 312 claims.

\$35,283.90 and February at \$35,299.58.

Overall, May seems to have been the most frugal time of the year in the provincial legislature. Only \$19,229 (41 claims) in taxpayer's money was spent during that month.

Overall, the average per month works out to about \$64,000.

Items without an invoice were excluded.

MONIQUE MUISE/METRO HALIFAX  
WITH FILES MATTHEW WUEST

### Hurlbert's alleged spending has Tories on damage control

### Open system

• Tory leader Karen Casey said she is working alongside Premier Darrell Dexter and Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil to fix expense rules and create an open system.

this week after admitting to expensing \$8,000 on a home generator but failing to disclose his \$2,500 TV. Casey admitted she knew about the TV but said she didn't mention it because Hurlbert was seeking clarification from the speaker.

On Wednesday she altered her story, saying Hurlbert should have disclosed the TV but it was OK for her to say nothing because it is the individual MLA's responsibility.

PAUL MCLEOD/METRO HALIFAX

A Valentine's Gift that Gives Back

Offer ends February 14th

Gift card not valid same day as purchase

# FREE MANICURE

## GIFT CERTIFICATE With Gift Card Purchase

Minimum \$50 value

# CHATTERS

HAIR | BEAUTY | SALON

902-407-1011

Dartmouth Crossing | 86 Hector Gate | Dartmouth, NS

BAYERS LAKE - OPENING SOON

Now Hiring Estheticians. Apply to [careers@chatters.ca](mailto:careers@chatters.ca)

Lowest retail prices guaranteed

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 7 DAYS A WEEK

[www.chatters.ca](http://www.chatters.ca)

Telus donated \$679,000 to the Atlantic Canada Boys and Girls Clubs Thursday. The 10-month Help Kids Go Further Campaign promised \$25 from every smartphone and mobile phone sold in Atlantic Canada would go towards the 30 Boys and Girls Clubs in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, P.E.I. and Newfoundland and Labrador. **METRO HALIFAX**

# Giving back Canadian-style

Red Cross donations to be accepted at Hockey Day for Haiti

## Haiti Crisis

MONIQUE MUISE  
monique.muise@metronews.ca

**Halifax will play host to another huge fundraising event for Haiti next weekend — and this time it will centre on our national pastime.**

Hockey Day for Haiti, set to take place on Feb. 21 at the Halifax Metro Centre, will feature a full day of on- and off-ice activities, organizers announced Thursday. Donations to the Canadian Red Cross will be encouraged throughout the festivities in support of the organization's ongoing relief efforts in earthquake-ravaged Haiti.

"This will be a wonderful event," said Canadian Red Cross representative Gavin Giles. "I can't think of a better combination, and I'm so proud to be involved in it."

The day will kick off at 2 p.m. with the Halifax Mooseheads hitting the ice to play the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles in a regular, ticketed event. After that, the doors will open up to the general public for a



Red Cross volunteers watch as Trade Centre Ltd. president and CEO Scott Ferguson speaks at a press conference at the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame Thursday. The Metro Centre will host a Hockey Day for Haiti event on Feb. 21, where fans can watch Team Canada take on Team USA at the Olympics on the big screen. The event is free but donations will be accepted for the Canadian Red Cross.

free family skate at 5:15 p.m., followed by on-ice demonstrations, a "dryer shoot-out" in honour of local hockey hero Sidney Crosby and a "mascot hockey game."

At 8 p.m., massive screens will be rolled out and the audience will be treated to a live broadcast of the Canadian men's hockey team taking on the United States at the Vancouver Olympics.

"We think it's a great op-

### Details online

- For more details on the event, head to [halifaxmetrocentre.com](http://halifaxmetrocentre.com)

portunity for us to connect with the national Olympic movement, all while supporting an extremely worthy cause," said Scott Ferguson, president and CEO of Trade Centre Ltd.

Ferguson added he hopes everyone will wear at least one item of red clothing to the event in support of both Team Canada and the Red Cross.

Last week, a major concert event dubbed Halifax for Haiti drew thousands to the Metro Centre's main arena and raised \$135,000 in support of relief efforts in Haiti, which was brought to its knees by a massive earthquake on Jan. 12.

## News in brief

**ROBBERY** Halifax Regional Police are investigating a robbery that occurred early Thursday morning in the 2000 block of Gottingen Street. The victim

was robbed at gunpoint and the attacker got away with an undisclosed amount of money and personal property.

**MARIJUANA** Over 270 mariju-

ana plants, drug paraphernalia and grow equipment were seized after Mounties responded to a break and enter on Tamerack Circle in Lower

Sackville on Monday night. The RCMP integrated drug unit was called and issued a warrant to remove the plants. There have been no arrests. **METRO HALIFAX**

## Police issue warning after woman sexually assaulted

**CRIME** Halifax Regional Police have issued a warning to the public after a sexual assault took place early Sunday morning in Halifax.

Police say the 4 a.m. incident happened as the 20-year-old female victim and her friend were walking home in the area of Queen and Morris streets. Police say they were approached by a man who reached under the victim's skirt and touched her.

When confronted by the victim, police say the suspect produced a small pipe-like object and threatened both women.

Police say the suspect was

scared off when an unknown man approached from the area of Morris Street. Neither woman was injured.

"We want the public to be aware," police spokesman Const. Brian Palmer said.

"The fact somebody did this is very concerning to us."

Police describe the suspect as white, about 26 years old and 170 pounds with a round face, short scruffy hair and an athletic build. He was wearing a black stocking or toque-style hat, blue jeans and a black fall jacket.

## Crown won't appeal ruling in death of Truro toddler

**COURT** The Crown is abandoning efforts to appeal a judge's decision to acquit Terry Dean Allen of manslaughter in the brutal death of a Truro toddler.

Crown attorney Diane McGrath said a review of the June 2009 trial proceedings determined an appeal could not be sustained.

"In order for the Crown to appeal a decision we have to find an error in law, and in this case, when the transcript and the judge's decision was very carefully analyzed and reviewed, there was no error in law made," said McGrath. "We can't appeal something simply because we may disagree with his findings of fact."

In his Sept. 14 decision,

Judge Alan Tufts concluded during the three-week-long trial the Crown had failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Allen was guilty of a manslaughter charge.

Samantha Mercer, 3, died in March 2005 as a result of injuries sustained in the Brunswick Street home that Allen at the time shared with her mother, Aleisha Mercer.

Allen claimed she fell down a flight of stairs while he was babysitting, which caused the fatal injuries described during the trial, including head trauma, a broken arm, several compressed vertebrae and bruises all over her body. The toddler died at the IWK hospital after being taken off life-support. **TRURO DAILY NEWS**

## Population decline spurs discussion

**DEMOGRAPHICS** A group of Nova Scotian municipalities, chambers of commerce and development authorities are banding together to figure out how to cope with severe population decline in the province.

The groups met in Wolfville on Tuesday to discuss the impending demographic crisis — which experts say will cause a 31.5 per cent drop in the number of school-aged children and a 30 per cent drop in university-aged students in Nova Scotia over the next 15 years.

According to Tim Tucker, executive director of the Nova Scotia Chambers of Commerce, the result will be fewer people entering the workforce.

"This challenge is real and requires us all to roll up our sleeves and take action," Tucker said in a release. "We all have a role to play."

**METRO HALIFAX**

**I grow**  
Amanda Young  
Client, Partner Organization,  
Supportive Housing for Young Mothers



[iwkstories.com](http://iwkstories.com)

**Sackville man facing child pornography charges named**

Halifax Regional Police have released the name of a Sackville man charged last month with child pornography offences. David Ouellet is facing charges of accessing, possessing and producing child pornography after searches were conducted in Halifax and at a home on Smokey Drive in Lower Sackville. **METRO HALIFAX**



Andrew LeFrank, left, and Daniel Foucher, right, from the Canada Border Services Agency answer questions along with RCMP Supt. Brian Brennan, centre, at a press conference at RCMP headquarters in Halifax. More than 200 kilograms of cocaine worth more than \$10 million were seized at the Port of Halifax this week.

## Drugs worth \$10M seized

Cocaine hidden in container

MONIQUE MUISE  
monique.muise@metronews.ca

**Police at the Port of Halifax have seized over 200 kilograms of cocaine hidden in the back of a shipping container.**

The drugs, which officials believe were shipped by an organized crime ring, have an estimated street value of over \$10 million, border services agents said Thursday.

“They arrived in Canada on Feb. 8 on a vessel originating in Chile,” said Andrew LeFrank, director of the Nova Scotia district of the Canadian Border Services Agency. “A significant seizure of this amount obviously means there’s a great quantity of drugs that won’t be reaching our streets.”

According to LeFrank, a seizure of this magnitude is rare — but not unheard of in Halifax.

The cocaine was wrapped in 22 long, cylindrical packages and then stuffed into six large bags that showed up on X-ray scans of the inside of the container, LeFrank said.

“We were conducting an examination on the waterfront and we selected some of the containers for in-

spection,” he explained. “Officers recognized that there was something in the container that didn’t look like it was supposed to be there.”

What was supposed to be there was common household mouldings, arranged on pallets. The ship made one stop in Peru after leaving port in Chile, officials said, but it’s still unclear where the drugs were loaded into the container — or where they were supposed to end up.

“As it stands right now there’s no indication of any specific destination,” said Supt. Brian Brennan, the RCMP’s federal policing officer in Nova Scotia. “Traditionally, large shipments of drugs coming into the port are then distributed (to the rest of Canada).”

According to LeFrank, a seizure of this magnitude is rare — but not unheard of in Halifax.

The cocaine has now been turned over to the RCMP, which will be conducting an investigation before destroying the entire shipment. No arrests have been made in connection with the seizure.

## Scammers target grandparents

AMY BOND  
For Metro Halifax

**CRIME** The Better Business Bureau in the Maritimes is issuing a warning for seniors to be wary if a “grandchild” calls asking for money — otherwise known as “the grandparent scam”.

In a release issued Thursday, the BBB said scammers have been targeting grandparents across the Maritimes by calling them, posing as their grandchild

and asking for money — otherwise known as “the grandparent scam”.

The release said scammers have been “frantically” calling these grandparents, posing as their grandchildren claiming they have caused a car accident or were arrested. They are also posing as a police officer or lawyer. The Bureau said grandparents have lost thousands of dollars thinking their grandchild needs help.

The BBB advises if you get a call from somebody claiming to be your grandchild in distress, don’t disclose any information unless you are certain it’s them.

They also say if you’re a victim of this North American scam, report the incident immediately to local police.

Post your comments about this and other stories at: [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

### News in brief

**FIRE** A vacant older home sitting directly in front of a new home on the same property suffered extensive damage from fire Thursday. Halifax regional fire spokesman Capt. Dave Meldrum said crews were called to a fire inside the house just before 4 p.m. He said the home suffered “pretty significant damage” because of heavy fire that made its way up to the roof. Fire investigators were at the scene after the fire was quickly put out looking for a cause. There was no one inside the home. **METRO HALIFAX**

# BedroomDEPOT

**“We’re Great In Beds!!”**

# MASSIVE LIQUIDATION

# UP TO 74% OFF\*\*

## MATTRESSES

MATTRESS MADNESS!!		PLUSH POCKET COIL		EUROPEAN MEMORY FOAM MATTRESSES & PILLOWS		Plush PillowTop Matt Sets		Posturepedic	
Single Promo	Matts from.....\$56	Twin	\$348 Set	Twin	\$268 Set	Twin	\$468 Set	Twin	\$468 Set
Double Promo	Matts from.....\$99	Double	\$428 Set	Double	\$328 Set	Double	\$568 Set	Double	\$568 Set
Queen Promo	Matts from.....\$139	Queen	\$468 Set	Queen	\$368 Set	Queen	\$668 Set	Queen	\$668 Set
		King	\$568 Set	King	\$538 Set	King	\$948 Set	King	\$948 Set

**Serta**  
WE MAKE THE WORLD'S  
BEST MATTRESS™

**ASHLEY**  
FURNITURE INDUSTRIES  
The World Class Furniture Company

**BedroomDEPOT**  
“We’re Great in Beds!!”

209 Chain Lake Dr., Halifax 450-1018  
20 Akerley Blvd., Dartmouth 468-3596  
501 Sackville Dr., Sackville 865-2350

MON - FRI, 9-9  
SATURDAY, 9-6  
SUNDAY, 12-5

\* some items not exactly as shown    [www.bedroomdepot.ca](http://www.bedroomdepot.ca)    \*\* limited supply on various items

## The Nova Scotia Government &amp; General Employees Union announced Thursday a donation of \$10,000 on behalf of its membership to Oxfam to assist efforts in the earthquake ravaged country of Haiti. The money will go to improve water and sanitation for the people living there, a NSGEU release said. METRO HALIFAX

## News in brief

**TOUR** Finance Minister Graham Steele announced the dates and locations for his final four financial public meetings and it

includes a stop in Halifax. Left out of the initial list, Steele will now end his Back to Balance tour with a stop Sat., Feb. 27

from 2-4 p.m. at the Halifax Forum Multipurpose Centre. Other stops are in Truro, Amherst and Tantallon. METRO HALIFAX

# Cupid's Arrow

*Deliciously Simple! Delectable shrimp and lobster dinner for two*

**\$39.99**  
Feb. 11-14  
Bedford Store only

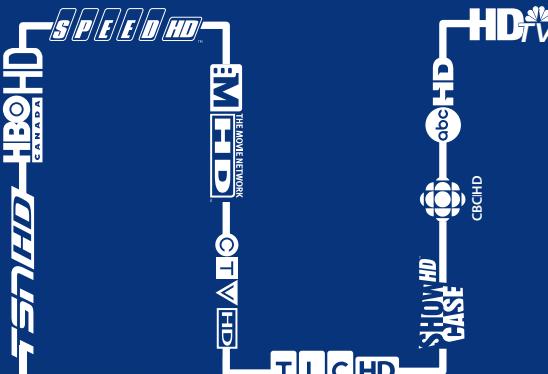
Dinner for Two package includes:

- 2 live or cooked premium hard shell lobster (Avg. 1.25 - 1.5 lb ea)
- 1 lb bag cooked shrimp (frozen, 21/25 ct)
- 1 lobster cracker
- 2 plastic lobster picks
- 2 bibs

Also includes a FREE Stuffed Lobster Toy for your sweetheart. (Retail Value \$ 6.99)

Please call 443.0333 to pre-book your feast!  
757 Bedford Hwy • 7 Days/Week 9am-6pm

**Clearwater**  
[www.clearwater.ca](http://www.clearwater.ca)



We know TV best.

**EastLink HD & DVR**

- Includes all your favourite HD channels with more added every month.
- DVR included - revolutionize your TV, watch what you want when you want.

Only \$19.90\*  
Check out our new HD lineup.

**EASTLINK**

\*\$19.90 includes a monthly subscription to EastLink's HD Basic package and a DVR rental. A subscription to the standard definition channels is required. Visit [eastlink.ca](http://eastlink.ca) for a current listing of all HD channels included in the HD Basic pack. HD channel selection varies by area. Confirm availability at [eastlink.ca](http://eastlink.ca).

**CALL 453-2800 or visit [eastlink.ca](http://eastlink.ca)**



Suspect sought by police in Dartmouth store robbery.

## Friday sentencing for drunk driver

**COURT** A serial drunk driver will learn his fate Friday in regards to his latest conviction.

Terry Naugle — described by Crown prosecutor Cheryl Byard as "the worst of the worst known offenders in Nova Scotia" for impaired driving — will be sentenced Friday afternoon at Dartmouth provincial court stemming from an incident last March.

The Crown is seeking a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison for the 52-year-old Naugle, five for impaired driving and five for driving while prohibited. The defence is arguing for four years.

In the past 30 years, Naugle's history consists of 22 drunk driving-related convictions. That includes a hit-and-run when Naugle's vehicle struck and hit the McMillan family on March 29, 2009.

METRO HALIFAX

## Police seek aid to ID suspect

Convenience store hit in January

**Halifax Regional Police are asking for the public's help in identifying a robbery suspect from an incident last month.**

Police say on Jan. 17 at 6:55 a.m., the man pictured in the above photo entered the Needs Convenience store at 182 Victoria Road in Dartmouth and said he had a gun. He demanded cigarettes and money from the clerk, police allege, and fled the

scene.

He is described as a white man aged between 18 and 21, around five feet 10 inches and was wearing a dark baseball hat, a grey hooded sweatshirt and blue track pants.

Anyone with information on the man pictured in the photo is asked to contact Halifax police at 490-5016 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

METRO HALIFAX

GET THE HOTTEST TICKET IN TOWN THIS FEBRUARY!

# Savour food & wine

Ward off winter's chill with a hot lineup of incredibly edible events, all February long! Visit [eDining.ca](http://eDining.ca) for a deliciously jam-packed festival calendar, event details and ticket information

**DECADENCE**  
CHOCOLATE | WINE | CHEESE

an evening of indulgence  
Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>  
in the Halifax Ballroom of the  
Marriott Halifax Harbourfront Hotel

Tickets \$49+HST

**Rare & Fine**  
Wine Tasting

SECOND ANNUAL  
Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>  
at Windows,  
WTCC Halifax

Tickets \$99+HST

**Savour**  
food & wine

February 25<sup>th</sup> at the  
Marriott Halifax Harbourfront Hotel

The most mingle-licious  
event of the year!

Tickets \$79+HST

**DINEOUT**

Discover the flavours of Nova Scotia  
special prix-fixe menus at restaurants  
through the province

February 1<sup>st</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>

Starting from  
\$25+HST

visit [eDining.ca](http://eDining.ca) or call 429-5343 ext 1 for tickets



**N.B. minister resigns from cabinet**

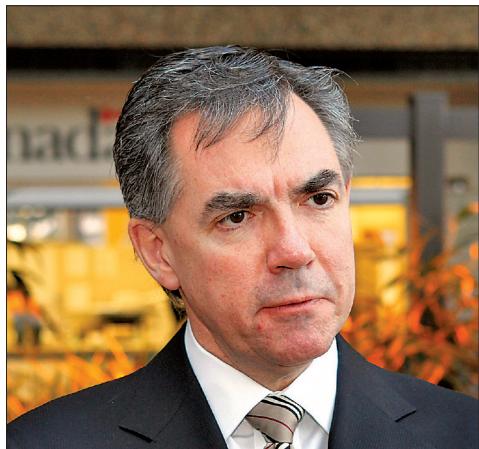
New Brunswick's justice minister has resigned from cabinet as the result of a breach of privacy that occurred when he was minister of local government. The Opposition Conservatives called for the resignation of Bernard LeBlanc after an email was released identifying a complainant in an animal abuse case. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

# Canada



## Florists deal with trio of events

Since the Winter Olympics has competition from Valentine's Day and Chinese Lunar New Year, it looked like a perfect storm for Vancouver florists. Some downtown florists say they're getting orders for cheap red-and-white bouquets from customers who want them in hand for rink tossing at the figure skating venue. But with Valentine's Day fast approaching, business in red roses was slow.



Jim Prentice, minister of the Environment and minister responsible for southern Alberta, talks to reporters at a media scrum in Calgary on Thursday.

## Oilsands need to get greener: Prentice

**ENERGY** Federal Environment Minister Jim Prentice says outside criticism of Alberta's oilsands will continue unless there is a constant effort to improve their environmental impact.

He was responding to an announcement by U.S. organic food store Whole Foods and home furnishings chain Bed, Bath and Beyond that they will not buy fuel derived from the oil-sands.

Prentice says the companies have made their decisions and he won't try to reach out to them.

But he says it's Canada's responsibility to push back against such criticisms and make it clear to the rest of the world that the country is doing the right thing environmentally. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## Police search colonel's home

**CRIME** Forensic investigators from the Ontario Provincial Police spent hours Thursday combing through the Ottawa home of an air force colonel charged in the murders of two women and the sexual assaults of two others.

Plainclothes officers car-

### Ads or a story?

• The Sierra Club of Canada has filed a complaint with the Advertising Standards Council that alleges Canwest tried to hide the fact articles on the oilsands that ran in several of its 11 major dailies were paid for by Shell Canada.

He says Canada should continue to aspire to be an energy superpower, but the country also needs to up its game on the environmental front.

Prentice pointed out that while Canada has environmental challenges with the oilsands, coal-fired power plants in the United States produce significantly more emissions. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## Buy American deal bashed

Deal opens up Ontario contracts to foreign bidders: Union

**Ontario must reject a new trade agreement that allows Canadian companies to be temporarily exempt from the Buy American elements of Washington's stimulus package, critics demanded Thursday after releasing a leaked copy of the bilateral agreement.**

The one-sided deal will eventually give foreign companies permanent access to publicly funded contracts in areas like schools and hospitals that were previously closed to them, while the province is getting very little in return, they said.

**\$73B** The deal will open about \$10 billion worth of Ontario projects to the U.S. and about \$73 billion worth of American projects to Ontario businesses, Premier Dalton McGuinty added.

In exchange, Canadian companies will get access to a small pot of U.S. stimulus funding, most of which has already been spoken for, said Fred Hahn, Ontario president of the Canadian Union of Public Employees.

"It binds us forever to opening procurement," he said.

"This isn't just about

some short-term deal to get access to money that ... is practically all committed. Alongside it is a forever agreement. That's not something that I think anybody in the province of Ontario thinks we're signing up for."

Only Ontario and Quebec have included procurement contracts for schools, hospitals, universities and social services in the agreement, according to the leaked documents.

But Quebec has a clause that exempts anything that pertains to culture, said Stewart Trew of the Council of Canadians.

"We have questions about why Ontario's Crown corporation responsible for water utility management maintenance has been included into its list of committed agencies," he said.

Bans on bottled water, "buy local" food initiatives and fair wage policies in Ontario may all come under attack from U.S. and foreign companies as a result, Hahn said.

Premier Dalton McGuinty defended the deal, insisting it would protect energy, hospitals and universities, with similar exemptions on both sides.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**



## Winter Fresh

**Eat local now!**



**Nova Scotia produce, meat and seafood aren't just for harvest time —**

fantastic seasonal foods are available all year long. Winter is a great time to enjoy delicious wild blueberries, hearty stews, seafood and so much more.

Visit **SelectNovaScotia.ca** for seasonal products, recipes and upcoming food events.

**Buy Local. Eat Fresh.**



[m.metronews.ca](http://m.metronews.ca)



### News in brief

**PENSIONS** Ottawa needs to break the deadlock in reforming the pension system by taking some first steps in next month's budget, says a new report from the C.D. Howe Institute. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Many gay teens who find being out and proud difficult in small town Canada seek to find acceptance in big city diversity. Scan this code for the story.

The Ontario government paid nearly \$700,000 for an ad campaign aimed at promoting its controversial plan to harmonize sales taxes. Newly released documents show that the government paid Narrative Advocacy Media \$95,000 to provide "strategic communication" and shelled out over \$600,000 for online ads. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## News in brief

**WILLIAMS** A poll says those closest to Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Danny Williams are most supportive of his trip to the U.S. for heart surgery. A new Canadian Press/Harris Decima survey found 65 per cent of Atlantic Canadians said Williams's trip was appropriate. Overall, 44 per cent of Canadians supported the premier's decision. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## Canada a safe investment: Report

**BANKS** A new bank report says Canada is well-positioned to take advantage of the debt crisis in Europe and growing fiscal problems in the U.S. The CIBC says Canada is increasingly being seen as a safe harbour in the looming global debt storm.

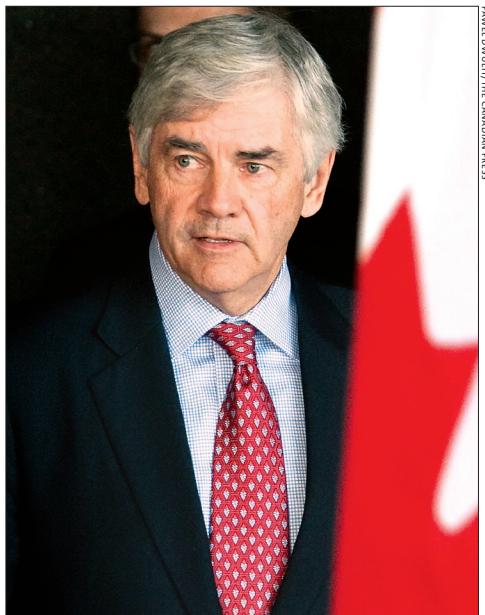
The bank says Ottawa's fiscal position already com-

pares favourably with most of Europe and the U.S. and will only improve over the next few years.

As well, a stable loonie will add to Canada's lure for foreign investors, the chartered bank says.

In a separate report, the Conference Board of Canada urges businesses to start

thinking globally and take advantage of trade opportunities abroad. The Ottawa-based think-tank says Canadian exporters need a new post-recession strategy that takes advantage of its relative strengths to build international value chains and attract foreign direct investment. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



PAWEŁ DOWIUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Lake City WOODWORKERS



Real, solid wood furniture handcrafted and affordably priced.

## 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sales Event



SAVE UP TO 20%

Buy up to \$500 ..... Save 10%

From \$501 - \$1999.....Save 15%

From \$2000 + ..... Save 20%

386 Windmill Rd, Dartmouth • 465-5000 lakecitywoodworkers.com

Sale ends Feb 28. \*\*Applies to New Orders and Regular stock items only! See store for details.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon arrives for a press conference at the Department of Foreign Affairs in Ottawa on Thursday.

## Cannon prods China on Iran issue

Minister says Asian nation should lead in nuke talks

**China needs to use its clout to curb Iran's pursuit of nuclear power, Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon said Thursday, refusing to rule out further sanctions against the Islamic regime.**

"I think the Chinese need to step up to the plate here. China, of course, is a very highly regarded partner with Iran," Cannon said in an exclusive interview with The Canadian Press.

Speaking in his corner office overlooking west Quebec, he said he expects the issue to dominate discussions among G8 foreign ministers to be held next month just across the river.

Last week, Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi said sanctions against Iran would be counterproductive to ending Tehran's nuclear ambitions.

Jiechi said countries can pursue peaceful nuclear energy as long as they conform to UN oversight by the International Atomic Energy Agency. But that is something Iran has not done.

"As China commits to IAEA obligations they will be in a good position to be able to influence," Cannon said.

Cannon said he expects the G8 ministers to be seized with the Iranian nu-

### Canada, Russia

- Canada has joined Russia and the U.S. in condemning Iran's nuclear ambitions. Prime Minister Stephen Harper says he spoke with Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin on Thursday and says they both expressed their grave concerns about the danger the Iranian regime poses while building its nuclear capabilities.

clear question and to come out with a strong statement when they convene in Gatineau, Que., next month.

Cannon called on Iran to cease uranium enrichment and open up to UN inspections in order to re-establish some credibility with the global community.

"We're deeply disappointed with Iran's attitude. Certainly their blatant contempt and their complete disregard for the international community is very worrisome," Cannon said in the interview.

"When you do this, when you enrich your uranium you have obligations ... Iran must stop this contemptuous attitude towards the international community."

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## Clinton hospitalized with clogged artery

Former U.S. president Bill Clinton had two stents inserted Thursday to prop open a clogged heart artery after being hospitalized with chest pains, an adviser said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

# World

## Guards cannot appeal expulsion: Iraqi gov't

**Hundreds of private security guards who have been ordered to leave Iraq within days because of links to Blackwater Worldwide cannot appeal the order, Iraq's interior minister said Thursday.**

The expulsion comes in the wake of a U.S. judge's dismissal of criminal charges against five Blackwater guards who were accused in the September 2007 shooting deaths of 17 Iraqis in Baghdad.

"We decide whether foreign security companies stay or not," Interior Minister Jawad al-Bolani told The Associated Press on Thurs-

day, saying the decision was final and could not be appealed. Al-Bolani announced late Wednesday that about 250 private security guards linked to Blackwater must leave the country or face possible arrest on visa violations. The order applies to security contractors who worked for Blackwater in Iraq at the time of the 2007 shooting.

Blackwater security contractors were protecting U.S. diplomats when the guards opened fire in Nisoor Square, a busy Baghdad intersection, on Sept. 16, 2007. Seventeen people were killed, including

[m.metronews.ca](http://m.metronews.ca)



Iran's nuclear announcement helped thaw Moscow and Ottawa relations — a thaw that earned Stephen Harper a Finnish tongue-lashing. Scan this code for the story.

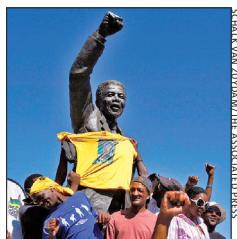
women and children, in a shooting that inflamed anti-American sentiment in Iraq.

Based in North Carolina, Blackwater is now known as Xe Services, a name change that happened after six of the security firm's guards were charged in the shooting. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Twenty years later: Mandela and South Africa

**JOHANNESBURG** South African lawmakers sang Nelson Mandela's praises Thursday as the anti-apartheid icon settled into parliament's public gallery for a State of the Nation address scheduled in tribute to his 20 years of freedom.

Mandela was released in 1990 after spending 27 years in prison and went on to lead South Africa through the last stretch of a stunning, peaceful revolution from apartheid to democracy. His release was remembered as triumphant Thursday, but the moment was uncertain and anxious for South Africa, and it is a testi-



People climb a statue of former South African president Nelson Mandela Thursday.

mony to Mandela's statesmanship that things went so well.

"When Mandela was re-

leased we did not know what was going to happen," said Nontuntuzelo Faku, who joined thousands of people who marked Thursday's anniversary near Cape Town at what was known in 1990 as Victor Verster, the last prison where Mandela was held.

The release of Mandela was the culmination of an eventful few days for South Africa. On Feb. 2, 1990, President F.W. de Klerk announced the unbanning of the African National Congress. On Feb. 10, de Klerk announced that Mandela would be released the next day. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## WHAT'S YOUR FREE PAIR?

With our 2<sup>nd</sup> Pair Free Policy available all day, every day.

0% PAYMENT PLAN  
EYE EXAMS ARRANGED  
2 YEAR FRAME GUARANTEE

**Vogue Optical** 2<sup>nd</sup> PAIR FREE POLICY

With 7 locations in the Metro Halifax area to serve you.

Lower Sackville Drive - Elmsdale Shopping Centre  
Woodlawn Centre - Young Street - Barrington Street  
Quinpool Road - Kearney Lake Road

## Comwave Knocks Out the Competition with Guaranteed Lowest Rates FOR LIFE!

If you EVER Find a Lower Rate Simply Call us and we'll Beat it... Guaranteed!

# UNLIMITED

Calling to  
**INDIA**  
(From Your Home or EVEN from your CELL PHONE)

**\$29.95**  
/month

**CUBA** 89.9 c/min **INDIA** 2.9 c/min **PAKISTAN** 5.9 c/min **PHILIPPINES** 11.9 c/min

Afghanistan	24.9 c	Fiji	24.9 c
Bangladesh	3.9 c	Ghana	9.9 c
Barbados	9.9 c	Greece	2.9 c
Chile	2.9 c	Guatemala	10.9 c
China	2.9 c	Guyana	27.9 c
Ecuador	12.9 c	Honduras	15.9 c
El Salvador	9.9 c	Iraq	4.9 c
Jamaica	8.9 c	Israel	2.9 c
Jordan	3.9 c	Italy	2.9 c
Kenya	6.9 c	Russia	2.9 c
Kuwait	6.9 c	Saudi Arabia	3.9 c
Lebanon	9.9 c	South Korea	2.9 c
Libya	24.9 c	Sri Lanka	11.9 c
Nepal	7.9 c	Trinidad	4.9 c
Oman	14.9 c	U.A.E	16.9 c

If the Country you call is not listed, call now and we'll beat the rate you are currently paying.

# UNLIMITED

Calling to Anywhere in

## CANADA

**\$5**  
/month

From your Home  
or Cell Phone!

Make Long Distance  
and Overseas Calls  
From Your  
CELL PHONE!

(at our GUARANTEED  
LOWEST RATES!)

- ✓ No need to cancel your service provider.
- ✓ \$10 Free Long Distance for every friend you refer
- ✓ No Contracts

**comwave**

1-866-519-8090 comwave.net

While Comwave strives for accuracy in our advertising, Comwave reserves the right to correct any error in pricing or information at any time. LONG DISTANCE: Comwave will not rate match against Charly or Internet services, localised minute plans or prepaid calling cards due to their inaccurate billing criteria. 2.9 Cents per minute to India is based on a monthly plan of \$10/min for 315 minutes. Unused minutes do not roll over to the following month. Rate Guarantee is based on competitor's lowest advertised rate for the service. Unlisted numbers are not guaranteed. Comwave is not responsible for any errors or omissions in the information contained on this website. The Comwave Global bundle does not include calls to overseas mobile phones. Calls to Brazil are to the 00 55 area code. Calls to Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Venezuela may be billed at a higher rate.



U.S. troops walk by a mine-resistant vehicle in southern Afghanistan yesterday.

The most advanced solar observatory ever built rocketed into space yesterday on a five-year quest to shed light on Earth's star. It was NASA's second launch in four days. On Monday, Endeavour blasted off to the International Space Station. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**Solar observatory takes maiden voyage into space**

# U.S. attack on Taliban nears

## Troops prepare for 'biggest offensive' of nine-year war

**U.S. and Afghan soldiers linked up with Marines on the outskirts of the Taliban stronghold of Marjah yesterday, sealing off escape routes and setting the stage for what is being described as the biggest offensive of the nine-year war.**

Taliban defenders re-

peatedly fired rockets and mortars at units poised in foxholes along the edge of the town, apparently trying to lure NATO forces into skirmishes before the big attack.

"They're trying to draw us in," said Capt. Joshua Winfrey, 30, of Tulsa, Okla., commander of Lima

Company, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines.

Up to 1,000 militants are believed holed up in Marjah, a key Taliban logistics base and centre of the lucrative opium poppy

trade. But the biggest threats are likely to be the land mines and bombs.

The precise date for the attack has been kept secret.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## MAKE ROOM FOR NEW MASTER BEDROOMS



## Rain soaks thousands in Haiti shelters

**HAITI** A pre-dawn rain shower soaked tens of thousands living in rudimentary shelters in Haiti's capital yesterday, a taste of the havoc a sustained downpour could wreak on this earthquake-ravaged country.

Rain collapsed cardboard shacks and soaked bedding

at the Marassa 14 camp, where about 2,500 displaced people live in a dry riverbed.

The UN says an estimated 1.2 million people live in temporary camps in Haiti, most in structures made of bed sheets and plastic sheeting.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## News in brief

**U.S.** An explosion of a transformer underneath a Manhattan sidewalk sent flames up the front of a landmark building yesterday, shattering windows and blackening

the facade of several stories. No injuries were reported as of yesterday. An investigation was underway into the cause.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**MR. YOGI**  
Internationally Renowned Spiritual Advisor

No problem is too big or too small for me to handle. Are you searching for clarity throughout your life? Reunite loved ones. Don't suffer in silence!

*I will not ask you why you called -  
I will know by the sound of your voice.*

50+ years experience • 482.7702

**CALL FOR  
FREE  
READING**

**Nova Scotia Health**

## Seniors' Pharmacare Program

It is time to renew your enrollment in the Seniors' Pharmacare program. Please look for renewal packages in your mailbox after Feb. 15.

This year there is no increase in fees. The copayment per prescription (30%), the annual maximum premium (\$424) and annual maximum co-payment (\$382) remain the same.

To learn more or to update your information, please call toll-free at 1-800-544-6191 or visit our website at [www.nspharmacare.ca](http://www.nspharmacare.ca)

**New program year begins April 1, 2010.**

**NOVA SCOTIA**  
Health  
[www.nspharmacare.ca](http://www.nspharmacare.ca)



*Generations of NOVA SCOTIANS LIVING WELL.*

**Gallery**  
Furniture Centre  
*All You Can Imagine...*

60 HIGHFIELD PARK DRIVE  
DARTMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA  
TEL: 902 466-5552

\*All financing is OAC. Not applicable to new "lower price" items in store. See store for complete details.

DELIGHT IN NEW LOWER PRICES WHILE THEY LAST!

10

## HALIFAX

Publisher, Greg Lutes  
Managing Editor, Philip Croucher

Sales Manager, Dianne Curran  
Distribution Manager, April Doucette

## METRO CANADA

Group Publisher, Bill McDonald  
Editor-in-Chief, Charlotte Empey

## Assoc Managing Editor, Tarin Elbert

Enter/Lifestyle Editor, Dean Lisk  
Asst Managing Editor, Amber Shortt

## Art Director, Laila Hakim

National Sales Director, Peter Bartrem  
Interactive/Mktng Director, Jodi Brown

# Comment & Views

EDITOR: MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

METRO CANADA: TORONTO | OTTAWA | MONTREAL | HALIFAX | EDMONTON | CALGARY | VANCOUVER

## Comment

## Policy not always best reality for kids

## UrbanCompass

**Stephen Kimber**



or Family Court Judge Beryl MacDonald, the question seemed simple. Does she have the authority to order the minister of community services to provide a service the department, by policy, doesn't offer? Her answer, delivered

during a family court hearing this week, was equally simple. She does not.

The legal issue may be simple; the case is anything but. And her defensible judicial answer may conflict with what is the ultimate goal of our child protection legislation: The best interests of the child.

The case involves a troubled Cole Harbour teenager whose grandparents raised him. Two years ago, when they realized they could no longer cope — he has serious psychological problems — they sought help from community services. In-

stead, the government assumed his guardianship and — because Nova Scotia doesn't have secure long-term youth facilities — shipped him off to Bayfield, an Ontario institution "for boys experiencing difficulties."

His grandparents objected and acted as the boy's advocates. That made them intruders in the government's and the institution's father-knows-best care program.

At one point, after the grandmother complained publicly about his treatment, Bayfield refused her a face-to-face visit. Bayfield has occasionally cut off all

communications between the child and his grandparents.

These days, phone contact is tightly controlled and monitored. A recent note from Bayfield staff claims one conversation "was beginning to turn negative as it was ending." This apparently referred to the fact the grandmother "asked about his medication again, and was more assertive that he did not believe he should just be taking medication whenever he wanted."

Doctors at Bayfield, who have prescribed Seroquel

XR, an antipsychotic medication, allow the boy to take some of his daily dosage "as needed." The province has authorized a dosage of up to 850 mg per day. According to the website healthcentral.com, "the safety of doses above 800 mg/day has not been evaluated in clinical trial." Drugs.com says Seroquel XR "should not be given to anyone younger than 18 years old."

The grandparents are just as concerned by what they see as escalating "incidents" of violence where Bayfield staff "restrained" the boy.

My non-legal question is

equally simple: Is this boy better off now than he was when he left Nova Scotia? What will he be like in three years when he becomes an adult and Bayfield spits him back out — as it has other Nova Scotia children.

The judge may see this as a narrow legal question. The Minister of Community Services should see it as a larger question. Is what her department doing in the best interest of this — or any other — child?

Stephen Kimber, the Rogers Communications Chair in Journalism at the University of Kings College, is the author of eight books.

## Views

## Spotting a 'growing' problem in homes

## Marketplace

**Erica Johnson**



metronews.ca/johnson

Do a quick Google search of "marijuana grow-ops" in Canada, and the headlines pop up. In just the past month: "RCMP estimate as many as 10,000 grow-ops in British Columbia," "Mounties encounter more sophisticated grow-ops," "Halifax police charge six in grow-op." And on they go.

There's no denying, Canada has become a "source country" for marijuana. Meaning, there's lots of money to be made, largely by organized crime.

And where are criminals

setting up shop? Step outside your house. Look down the block to the left. Then look to the right. Chances are, a house near you is hiding a grow-op secret.

So what happens when the police bust these homes? Or when the growers figure it's time to move on? Often, these houses get quickly patched up and put on the market, leaving the next homebuyer stuck with expensive problems — like mould, dangerous wiring, and structural damage.

If you think hiring a home inspector is going to protect you, think again. Some are trained to spot the grow-op warning signs, but many have no idea what to look for. And accreditation or other fancy titles aren't much of a guarantee either. Watch what happens Friday night when we invite in-

spectors to a bait house, to spot obvious grow-op warning signs. One claims to be an engineer, two are certified and another is a registered home inspector. By the end of the show, you'll probably learn to do a better job spotting a grow-op coverup than they do.

So when it comes time to hire a home inspector, there are a few things to ask. Firstly, what kind of experience does the inspector have? If they don't have much, that's a big red flag.

What kind of training do they have? And is it relevant? That's key — even if someone is an engineer, it doesn't mean they're qualified to inspect a home.

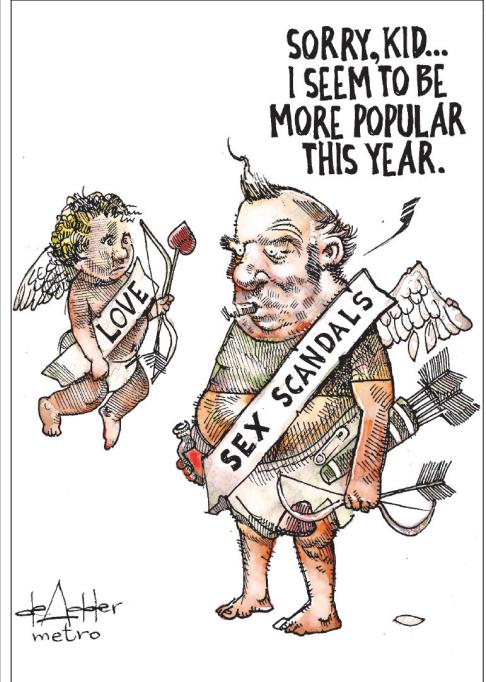
Are they independent? Never hire a home inspector who's been referred by a real estate agent — they may feel obliged to help sell

a house in bad condition. The inspector also shouldn't be part of a construction or homebuilder group, or offer repair services themselves.

What kind of equipment does the home inspector bring along? They should have a camera, binoculars, a ladder, maybe even an infrared camera. Their reports should include photographs, and include detailed explanations of what's been found.

Lastly, can you follow them around during an inspection? A good inspector will encourage you to take part, and will clearly communicate any serious problems — not bury them in a checklist.

Erica Johnson is a journalist and co-host of CBC News: Marketplace, Canada's award-winning consumer affairs show. CBC News: Marketplace airs each Friday night at 8:30 p.m. on CBC Television.



Tell us your views by email to [halifaxletters@metronews.ca](mailto:halifaxletters@metronews.ca) or comment on [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca) or on Twitter @metrohalifax  
Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

METRO Halifax 3260 Barrington Street, Suite 102, Halifax, NS B3K 0B5; Tel: 902-444-4444; Fax: 902-422-5610; Advertising: 902-421-5824 • [adinfohalifax@metronews.ca](mailto:adinfohalifax@metronews.ca); [halifax\\_distribution@metronews.ca](mailto:halifax_distribution@metronews.ca); News: [philip.croucher@metronews.ca](mailto:philip.croucher@metronews.ca)

## WE WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD!



OUR CUSTOMERS ARE #1  
**FAIRLEY & STEVENS**  
482-8222  
[www.fairleyandstevens.com](http://www.fairleyandstevens.com)



Manulife Financial Corp. reported Thursday an \$868-million profit in the fourth quarter, reversing a big loss racked up by the Canadian life insurance giant in the same period a year earlier, when it was hurt by weak equity markets. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

## Retail chain to close down stores

**SALES** Liquidation World Inc. plans to reduce the number of stores it operates to 91 by the end of this fiscal quarter, down from 96 currently, the company said Thursday.

Up to eight stores will be closed and three new stores opened during the quarter, it said. The closures were announced along with Liquidation

World's latest financial report, for the fiscal first quarter ended Jan. 3.

Revenue in the quarter was \$44.1 million, from \$47.1 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2009.

Same-store sales, a key comparison of locations that have been open at least a year, declined by \$3.8 million. During the most recent quarter, Liqui-

dation World opened five new stores.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Remember Yellow Pages? If your answer is no, the company hopes to change your mind with a digital overhaul. Scan this code for the story.



Savings on line 1.  
And 2.  
And 3.

**EastLink**  
Business Telephone.

More and more people are switching for:

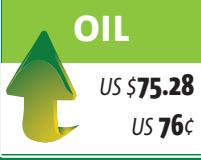
- Superior service and local account management.
- Scalable solutions and a reliable state-of-the-art network that work for you.
- Telephone savings up to 30% monthly.\*



Call 1-877-813-1727  
or visit [eastlink.ca](http://eastlink.ca)

**EASTLINK**  
For Business

\* Approximate monthly savings based on a comparison of standalone DID, PRI, and Centrex service compared to Bell Aliant's standalone services. All information deemed to be correct at time of publication and subject to change. Any changes will be updated and accessible at [eastlink.ca](http://eastlink.ca). Call for availability.



## Blockbuster earnings

Avatar helps Cineplex net \$9.5M in last quarter

A slate of high-profile blockbusters helped Canada's biggest movie theatre exhibitor Cineplex Galaxy Income Fund pull off a stronger fourth quarter and a record year in both box-office receipts and concession sales.

The Toronto-based income trust said Thursday that quarterly earnings were \$9.5 million for the

period ended Dec. 31, helped by the early results from James Cameron's Avatar, which was playing in theatres during the last 13 days of the quarter.

The quarterly earnings were a 37 per cent increase from \$6.9 million a year before.

Avatar was the No. 1 performing film

in the quarter generating 11.8 per cent of total box-office revenue, said president and CEO Ellis Jacob. Since then, Avatar has gone on to become the top grossing film of all time, bringing in more than \$2 billion US globally so far.

The film's box-office results have been helped by premium ticket prices for both its digital 3-D and Imax 3-D versions, which can be sold for about \$3 to \$5 more than the average movie ticket.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Business in brief

**PENSIONS** The Canada Pension Plan Fund reported assets of \$123.9 billion at the end of its third quarter, as it recov-

ered from a fall to \$108.9 billion a year earlier when plummeting stock markets caused a loss of 6.7 per cent.

The fund said it generated \$2.2 billion in investment income during the quarter ended Dec. 31.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**PC MEDIC.COM**

**JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED!**



**iPads - Reserve Yours Today!**

- 1.5 pounds
- 9.7" display
- 16, 32 or 64GB flash drive
- Up to 10 hours battery life!
- Mercury-free LCD display



Samsung  
24"LCD  
Widescreen

**\$289**



HP Laser Printer 1319F  
Print/copy/scan/fax

**\$179**

**BLOW OUT!**

Toshiba Netbook  
NB300 10.1" LCD

**\$399**



IBM Used Gear Desktops

from **\$99**



Products may differ from pictures. Pricing may change without notice.

**WE SPEAK PLAIN ENGLISH, TECHNO BABBLE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST!**

50 Akerly Blvd.  
Dartmouth, NS  
468.PCDR (7237)

2760 Robie Street  
Halifax, NS  
468.HELP (4357)

515 Kennedy Drive  
Dieppe, NB  
860.PCDR (7237)

16 Stavanger Dr.  
St. John's, NL  
579.PCDR (7237)

103 S. Albion St.  
Amherst, NS  
660.PCDR (7237)

**Lions sunk by Mariners**

The Halifax Lions fell 7-2 to the Yarmouth Mariners in Maritime Junior A Hockey League action on Thursday night at the Forum. Wayne Bedecki and Kyle Dilosa scored in the loss. **METRO HALIFAX**

# Sports



## Ryan gets the job

Halifax Lions head coach and general manager Troy Ryan has been named head coach of Team Canada East for next year's world junior A hockey challenge. The event will be held in November, with the location to be announced.

**METRO HALIFAX**

EDITOR: DON.MCHOUILL@METRONEWS.CA



JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dartmouth's Sarah Conrad competes in the women's World Cup snowboard halfpipe event in Canmore, Alta., on Jan. 30.

## A dark horse and a star: Nova Scotia's Olympians

**MATTHEW WUEST**  
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

One is being counted on to win gold; the other is admittedly entering the Olympics as a dark horse.

But together, Cole Harbour hockey superstar Sidney Crosby and Dartmouth snowboarder Sarah Conrad will carry Nova Scotia's colours at the Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

It's Crosby's first Olympics and Conrad's second.

"I've really had my sights sent on Vancouver," said the 24-year-old Conrad. "I'm really excited to compete on home soil and have the home town, home country behind me."

Canadian fans, rightly or wrongly, expect nothing less than gold from Crosby

and the men's hockey team after a disappointing finish at the Turin Games in 2006.

The Pittsburgh Penguins captain looks up to the task, fourth in NHL scoring with 74 points in 59 games.

Conrad, a half-pipe rider who placed 16th in Turin, has had a strong season, including a fourth-place finish at a World Cup last month. But she isn't in the spotlight like Crosby.

"There hasn't been as much focus on the pipe team," said Conrad. "We've been off the hook for a lot of media requests and we're coming in as dark-horses. I like that better."

The puck drops for Crosby next Tuesday against Norway, while Conrad is set to compete next Thursday.

## Herd stronger in home stretch

**HOCKEY** The Halifax Mooseheads are inching closer to playing .500 hockey as the QMJHL season starts to wind down.

With 13 games left, the Mooseheads are 5-4-2 in their past 11 games as they head to Quebec for games on Saturday and Sunday at 5 p.m. against the Rimouski Oceanic.

They edged the P.E.I. Rocket 5-4 in a shootout on Wednesday in a game they didn't feel they deserved.

"We've been playing pretty good lately," said Mooseheads assistant captain Pascal Amyot. "Even though we won against P.E.I., it didn't reflect the way we've been playing. We were play-

ing really well up until then and we've got to learn from that and give our best effort on the weekend."

The Mooseheads won four straight games in November but haven't enjoyed prolonged success like this all season. They're still last in the QMJHL with a 13-37-5 record, but are five points from catching the Baie-Comeau Drakkar and 10 behind the Lewiston Maineiacs for the final playoff spot.

A couple of wins this weekend would change the picture.

"We're looking for four points," said Mooseheads winger Gabriel Desjardins.

**MATTHEW WUEST/**  
**METRO HALIFAX**

# 'Two pieces of a puzzle'

Gallimore a good fit with defence-minded Rainmen coach

**MATTHEW WUEST**  
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

**Garry Gallimore, the defensive specialist, was a natural fit with Les Berry, the defensive tactician.**

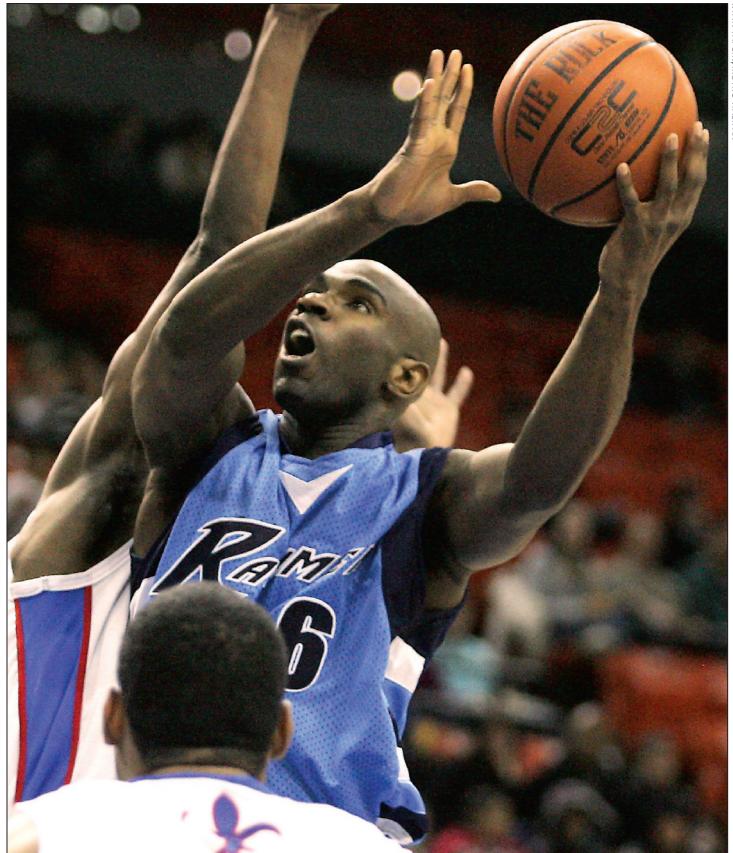
"Like two pieces of a puzzle," joked Gallimore. The Halifax Rainmen, coached by Berry, are one of the stingiest defensive teams in the Premier Basketball League this season, and Gallimore, a two-time Atlantic University Sport defensive player of the year, has helped lead the effort.

Berry, a former Acadia Axemen bench boss, was all too familiar with Gallimore from their days in the AUS. Gallimore, a six-foot-two guard, stymied Berry's Axemen regularly en route to three championships with the X-Men.

"Les knows me very well — I've been the guy who's been smacking his teams around in the AUS," Gallimore laughed. "Everybody told me I'd like playing for Les Berry because he's very defensive-minded and I've always loved playing for coaches who put an emphasis on defence."

Gallimore, an Ottawa native, spent the 2007-08 season in Belgium before taking last year off. But he stayed in shape and made the Rainmen as a walk-on at training camp.

He averages 13:26 of floor time per game, but Berry relies heavily on his former nemesis in the closing moments of games. In the final 17 minutes, the well-built, fierce competitor averages eight minutes, 17 seconds and he's been on



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Garry Gallimore has been a key defensive contributor for the Rainmen this year.

## Sunday's game

• The second-place Halifax Rainmen (7-2) host the second-to-last Manchester Millrats (2-7) in Premier Basketball League action at the Metro Centre on Sunday. Game time is 4 p.m.

"Most definitely, man," he said. "I'm a gamer." The 25-year-old is a for-

mer member of Canada's under-21 national team and is thrilled to be continuing his career with the Rainmen. He doesn't plan on quitting anytime soon.

"I'm working to get to the highest level I can before I retire," he said. "Whether that's with the national team or staying here with the Rainmen, that's what I'm aiming for."

## Tigers have basketball fate in their hands this weekend

**AUS** Pete Belliveau gets right to the point on the importance of this weekend to his Dalhousie Tigers.

"It's our biggest weekend in six years," said the second-year head coach of Dalhousie's men's hockey team. "We control our own destiny ... We can make the playoffs, and it's a known

fact, we haven't made the playoffs in six years."

The Tigers, 8-14-4, are sixth in Atlantic University Sport with 20 points, one point ahead of the Moncton Aigles Bleus and four points ahead of the St. Thomas Tommies. They don't have tiebreakers over either of those teams, meaning they need victo-

ries and need them badly to make the cut.

The Tigers are on the road against the P.E.I. Panthers on Friday and the nationally top-ranked New Brunswick Varsity Reds — who are an astonishing 26-0 — on Saturday.

If Dal gets in, a playoff matchup with the third-place Saint Mary's Huskies

would likely be waiting for them. The two teams haven't met in the playoffs since the 2002 AUS final.

"Honestly, I couldn't care less about who we play," Belliveau said bluntly.

"Just give us a playoff spot."

**MATTHEW WUEST/**  
**METRO HALIFAX**

## 14 sports

**Bryant, Iverson to miss all-star game**  
The NBA says Kobe Bryant of the Los Angeles Lakers and Allen Iverson of the Philadelphia 76ers won't play in the all-star game this weekend. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

# Where the dreams began

Bosh returns home as both a changed man and player

**Chris Bosh left Dallas a gangly teen with hopes and dreams but no expectations; no real feel for what the world held for him or how long it would take him to find out where he fit in.**

He returns this weekend not as a conquering hero but close to one, maybe the best basketball player Dallas has ever produced — a dominant, five-time NBA all-star.

Not bad for a kid who was not much thicker than a twig when he left Lincoln High School for Georgia Tech eight years ago with no idea what he would

morph into and who could only dream about becoming what he's become.

"I was thinking it was two to three years that I was going to be in school," Bosh said in an interview this week.

"Everything was just hoping and wishing."

That was a different mentality. It was like, 'Maybe I can make the league, I want to do this and maybe I want to do that.' You just hope for everything."

A lot of what Bosh had hoped for has indeed come true for the 25-year-old Raptors power forward. He's about to play in his fourth all-star game (he was selected to the team one other time but forced out of the game due to injury) and he's won an Olympic gold medal. He's having his best season ever for the Ra-

tors, averaging career highs in points and rebounds and emerging as a dominant force in nearly every game.

He will be one of the most coveted free agents on the market this summer, a fact that has Raptors fans worried about losing another "franchise player."

Not bad for a relative kid who should have as much as a decade left in his career.

"For me, it happened kind of fast, it got accelerated kind of fast," Bosh said.

"I'm still a young dude and I get to do all this stuff. Get to play in the all-star game ... be on this (Toronto) team, be a leader."

"It's pretty cool what's happened."

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



Chris Bosh

## Troubled Portsmouth facing big threat from neighbour

**With Portsmouth in danger of going out of business and finishing last in the Premier League, it might appear things couldn't get much worse.**

Now comes the threat of being knocked out of the cup by third division Southampton, its bitter south coast neighbour.

A day after Portsmouth temporarily survived a winding up order, gaining at least another week to try and pay off tax debts, coach Avram Grant and his players were able to concentrate Thursday on beating Southampton.

Their opponents have also had their cash problems. They received a 10-point punishment this season for going into financial administration but have lost only six of 28 games in League One. With local bragging rights at stake, Southampton will be tough to beat at its St. Mary's stadium on Saturday.

Portsmouth midfielder Richard Hughes believes the extra interest of facing its neighbour will lift some of the gloom of the club's financial plight.

"It was the draw I was hoping for," he said. "And, to be absolutely honest, although the fans would have loved for a chance to welcome them back to our patch, I'm pleased to be



**"The opportunity to go to our old friends and hopefully turn them over in their backyard is extra special."** Portsmouth midfielder Richard Hughes on facing Southampton

playing them away from home.

"We've yet to beat them at St. Mary's and so the opportunity to go to our old friends and hopefully turn them over in their backyard is extra special."

This is the first time in almost five years that the two teams have met because Southampton was relegated from the top flight in 2005 and even slipped into the third division this season.

"The derby is a match that I've always most enjoyed in my time at Portsmouth," Hughes said. "It's always quite a lively day and the one disappointment that came from them going down is that we haven't been able to play them since."

Portsmouth faced seven-time European champion Milan in last season's UEFA Cup having won the FA Cup the season before.

Since then, its fortunes have nosedived, especially after the departure of manager Harry Redknapp to Tottenham last season. With only 16 points from

25 games, Portsmouth has six fewer than anyone else and is eight away from safety.

With Manchester United, Arsenal and Liverpool all knocked out of the competition, the race to the May 15 final at Wembley appears wide open.

Defending champion Chelsea is the hot favourite, however, and hosts League Championship club Cardiff on Saturday.

Manchester City, still looking for its first major title since the 1976 League Cup, remains another leading FA contender and hosts Stoke on Saturday. Tottenham, which has won the cup eight times but not since 1991, goes to Bolton on Sunday also seeking a place in the quarter-final.

Aston Villa has won the oldest and most famous cup competition seven times but not since 1957.

It should be confident of reaching the last eight with a game at second division Crystal Palace, which is another club in financial difficulty.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

### Sports in brief

**BASEBALL** Outfielder Corey Hart has become the first player on the Milwaukee Brewers to go to arbitration in 12 years. Hart asked a panel of arbitrators Thursday for a raise to \$4.8 million US from \$3.25 million. The Brewers countered with an offer of \$4.15 million.

**BASEBALL** Tom Glavine has rejoined the Atlanta Braves as special assistant to president John Schuerholz. The 43-year-old former pitcher will work with Schuerholz on baseball and business projects and will occasionally assist general manager Frank Wren and manager Bobby Cox.

**CFL** Marcel Bellefeuille was recognized Thursday for leading the Hamilton Tiger-Cats to their first home playoff game in eight years, being named as one of three finalists for the CFL's coach of the year award.

Joining him are Marc Trestman of the Grey Cup champion Montreal Alouettes, and Ken Miller, who guided the Saskatchewan Roughriders to the West Division title.

**NBA** The NBA says Kobe Bryant of the Los Angeles Lakers and Allen Iverson of the Philadelphia 76ers won't play in the all-star game this weekend.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

### SCOREBOARD

**THURSDAY'S RESULTS**  
Ottawa 6 Washington 5  
Vancouver 3 Florida 0  
Boston 5 Tampa Bay 4  
Carolina 4 Buffalo 3 (OT)  
San Jose 3 Detroit 2 (SO)  
Dallas at Calgary  
Edmonton at Los Angeles

**NBA**  
**THURSDAY'S RESULTS**  
Cleveland 115 Orlando 106  
San Antonio at Denver



**GO CANADA!**



**GET IN THE SPIRIT at O'REGAN'S ON ROBIE**

*with a free "Go Canada" flag*



**2010 Cobalt**

**From \$12,718**

**SAVE BIG**

**\$0 Down**

**\$90 biweekly**

- BEST Cash Price on the Market
- Best-in-Class Highway Fuel Efficiency
- 5.4 L/100km
- Available in both Sedan & Coupe
- Peace of Mind-Best Coverage in Canada
- 5 yr. / 160,000km Powertrain Warranty



**O'REGAN'S**

**CHEVROLET CADILLAC**

**DRIVING HIGHER STANDARDS**

**2477 ROBIE STREET • HALIFAX • 422-8551**

**WWW.OREGANSCHEVROLET.COM**

\*Includes all factory to dealer incentives & Loyalty Bonus plus freight, fees & tax. Visit O'Regan's Chevrolet for details.

**What to watch on Friday**

Here's a look at some of Friday's TV highlights at the Winter Olympics: 2 p.m.: Ski jumping normal hill individual 1st round (Sportsnet), 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.: Opening ceremonies (CTV, TSN, Sportsnet). **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



# Vancouver Games

EDITOR: DON.MCHOUILL@METRONEWS.CA

## The waiting is over

**When most people hold their breath, they turn blue.**

For the millions of Canadians waiting for the start of the 2010 Winter Olympics on Friday, they've been turning red.

The nation has waited for more than 20 years for these Olympics to finally claim a prize denied twice before: an Olympic gold medal on home soil.

In this simple piece of metal are cast the hopes and dreams of the country and by the time the Olympics begin, Canada will be full to bursting with anticipation.

And that's exactly how the Vancouver Olympic organizing committee wants it.

When they bid for the Games in 2003, said VANOC chief executive officer John Furlong, it was with a very distinct vision.

"We thought we could be a nation builder," he said. "The Games could be

a moment in time for Canada where every Canadian could feel like they had participated in not just watching this and cheering it on, but in actual fact playing a role in helping it be successful."

Together with the federal government and Canadian Olympic Committee officials Vancouver organizers ran the ambitious Own the Podium program, a \$117 million effort to ensure Canada wins more medals than any other country at these Games.

Canadian figure skaters Jessica DuBé and Bryce Davison

It was a gutsy move for an organizing committee, whose job in the past has been merely to act as the gracious host for the world and show off a little bit of their country's charm while they're at it.

"It's not something that we recommend an organization

do. You have to put resources to that, it costs you money, it costs you resources, it costs you a lot of effort," said Gilbert Felli, the IOC's executive director

of Games.

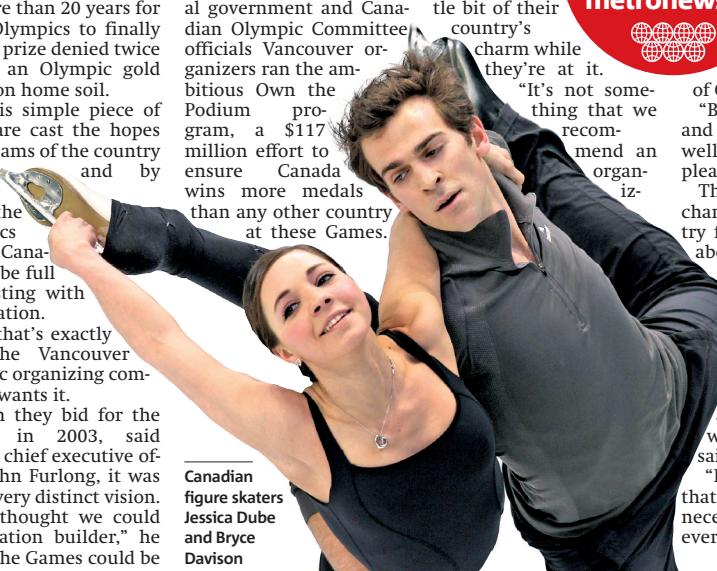
"But they have done it, and they have done it very well and we are very pleased about it."

The goal wasn't just to change the way the country feels about sport, but about itself, said Dave Cobb, deputy executive director for the organizing committee.

"I think it has become accepted in this country that it's all right to say we want to be No. 1," he said.

"But to do it in a way that's not arrogant, not necessarily expected everywhere."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## Read their lips: Vocals will be synched, not dubbed

**LIP-SYNCH** Two years after piped-in vocals from a seven-year-old songbird touched off a controversy at the Beijing Games, Vancouver Olympic organizers are hoping to avoid a similar scandal by being clear about plans for the 2010 opening ceremonies.

Yes, VANOC says, performers will lip-synch at Fri-

day's festivities. But they're also quick to point out the distinction between that method and the dubbing that inspired such outrage in Beijing.

In 2008, a button-cute nine-year-old girl's stirring rendition of *Ode to the Motherland* was among the highlights of the extravagant opening ceremonies.

But when it was revealed that the vocal was actually delivered by another child — the seven-year-old, tucked away off-screen because producers didn't consider her telegenic — newspapers around the world condemned the fakery.

But David Atkins, executive producer of the Vancouver opening cere-

monies, points out that what happened in China was actually dubbing, not lip-synching — the distinction being that lip-synching involves a singer mimicking a backing track of his or her own voice, while dubbing means misrepresenting someone else's voice as the singer's own.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Cauldron lighting demands greatness

**Field of Play**

**Scott Russell**



metronews.ca/fieldofplay

ey gold in 50 years in 2002, Gretzky forever cemented our loyalty.

Nancy Greene will make the cut. She spawned a fascination with skiing by winning gold at the 1968 Olympics. Every member of this year's alpine team emerged from the Nancy Greene Racing League that keeps the sport strong in Canada.

"Canada's Sweetheart," Barbara Ann Scott will grace the proceedings.

The only Canadian winner of individual figure skating gold, Scott's legacy endures. And she won in 1948 at St. Moritz as the World was healing the wounds of war. Barbara Ann Scott is a lock in my books.

As is speed skater Catriona Le May Doan.

She was known as "The Fastest Woman on Ice," the only Canadian Olympian, winter or summer, to have won gold medals in consecutive Games. Le May Doan's address to the IOC in 2003 swung the vote and helped get Vancouver/Whistler the Olympics in the first place. Together they'll do it — our greatest skier, figure skater, speed skater and hockey player.

They are four strong symbols of the country and the Olympics who will gather the world around the roaring cauldron's light on opening night.

Gemini Award winner and author Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. A 20-year CBC Sports veteran, he has covered a variety of professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

## YOU CAN HANDLE HARD WORK!



- STEP 1** 2 Weeks training at Atlantic Petroleum Training College
- STEP 2** Receive Floorhand certificate and prepare to travel West
- STEP 3** Swaindrilling Inc. Employment Services

**NEXT COURSE DATES:**  
 • Feb 24-March 9 • March 10-March 23 •  
 • Every 2 weeks thereafter •

**OUT WEST IS CALLING!**  
**APTC**  
 Atlantic Petroleum College  
[www.aptcolllege.com](http://www.aptcolllege.com)

Swaindrilling Inc guarantees employment and flies you to your job!  
 877-456-8333 • (902) 442-1235

## Vancouver Games



# Canada, U.S. ready to do it all over again

## Women's hockey squads set to add new chapter to longstanding rivalry

If the players on the American women's hockey team are out to avenge their loss on home ice to Canada at the 2002 Olympics, they're not saying so.

Canada and the United States are the top-ranked teams in any women's hockey event, and their now 20-year-old rivalry will add another chapter beginning Saturday at the 2010 Winter Games.

The Americans can do in Vancouver what the Canadians did in Salt Lake City eight years ago — get an upset victory in the final in their dreaded rival's rink.

"I'm not focused on paying them back, just on playing my best hockey," three-time Olympian Julie Chu of the U.S. squad said Thursday. "We lost the gold medal, it happened to be on our soil, and here we want to put ourselves in position to be in the gold medal game."

**"They're not only the defending gold medallist, they're hosting, and it's their national sport — they have a lot on their shoulders. ... We have no pressure."**

Team USA's Angela Ruggiero on the Canadian women

"Our goal is to win a gold medal, and if it's on Canadian soil, that's what it turns out to be."

It is the fourth time women's hockey will be a medal sport at the Olympics. The Americans beat Canada 3-1 in the first final in Nagano, Japan, in 1998, but Canada answered with a 3-2 victory four years later, despite an American referee who slapped Canada



GE RY BROOM/THA ASSOCIATED PRESS  
They check themselves now before discussing any impending meeting with Canada, knowing there are games that must be won against underdogs first — starting Sunday against China.

"You saw it in the last Games, we overlooked Sweden bit, so we're focusing one game at a time," said Angela Ruggiero, who is at her fourth Olympics.

Still, Ruggiero is pleased to load any extra pressure she can on Canada.

"They're not only the defending gold medallist, they're hosting, and it's their national sport — they have a lot on their shoulders," she said.

"They can deny it as much as they want, but there's the weight of a nation on them."

"We have no pressure. We know what we have to do to win."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Members of the U.S. women's hockey team look on during a press conference in Vancouver on Thursday. The team play China on Sunday.

with 13 minor penalties.

The U.S. hit a speed bump in 2006 in Turin, Italy, losing 3-2 to Sweden in the semifinals. Canada

beat the Swedes 4-1 to claim the gold medal and the Americans settled for bronze.

The setback prompted

changes in the American team, and 15 first-time Olympians are on the 21-player squad in Vancouver.

## 101.3 The BOUNCE

Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>



Manchester Millrats vs. Halifax, 4pm

Find a BOUNCER in the crowd and you could win free gas from Wilson's Gas Stops!

101.3  
THE  
BOUNCE

Tickets on sale now!  
[www.ticketatlantic.com](http://www.ticketatlantic.com)

2009-10 Season  
brought to you by:  
ROGERS

## Doping prevalent but no Canadians disqualified

**CRACKDOWN** More than 30 athletes have been dropped from Winter Olympic teams from around the world because of doping violations, the World Anti-Doping Agency said Thursday without divulging names, nationalities or sports.

There were no Canadians among them. But in separate anti-doping news Thursday, a Russian female hockey player received an official reprimand for using a banned stimulant.

Svetlana Terenteva tested positive for tuaminoheptane, a stimulant found in decongestant cold medicines.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Flame arrives at Vancouver's city hall

**RELAY** The Olympic flame has arrived at Vancouver's city hall to hundreds of cheering spectators waving small Canadian flags.

Mayor Gregor Robertson was there to welcome the flame to Vancouver just as he was there to usher the flame on to Canadian soil when the run began in October.

Robertson told the crowd the moment they have been waiting for years has finally arrived.

The torch will stay in Vancouver for the rest of the day, eventually reaching a massive community celebration planned in the city's downtown.

On Friday, it will be passed hand-to-hand among celebrities like Arnold Schwarzenegger and Canadian icons like Walter Gretzky, Wayne's



Firefighter Brian Bogdanovich carries the Olympic torch to Vancouver City Hall Thursday afternoon. Several hundred people showed up to cheer the torch's arrival.

father, before the flame is ushered to the stadium where it will light the cauldron to start the Games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**2010 DODGE RAM 1500  
SLT REGULAR CAB 4X4**

**AS LOW AS  
\$189  
BIWEEKLY**

5.7L/8 HEMI WITH MDS, ALL POWER OPTIONS, REAR SLIDING WINDOW, U-CONNECT VOICE COMMAND, CLASS 4 TRAILER HITCH, BOX LINER

**Sign & Drive  
You Pay This  
NOT ONE  
PENNY MORE!**

\*Fee's and taxes included in payments \*All program discounts included \*2.25% interest for 84 months

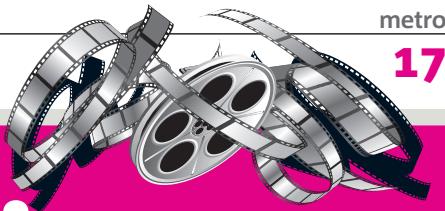
**2010 DODGE RAM 1500  
SLT QUAD CAB 4X4**

5.7L/8 HEMI WITH MDS, ALL POWER OPTIONS, AM/FM CD RADIO, CLASS 4 TRAILER HITCH, BOX LINER & LOCK NUTS

**HALIFAX  
Chrysler Dodge Jeep.**

12 Lakelands Blvd. • Bayers Lake Park • 455-0566 • [www.halifaxchrysler.com](http://www.halifaxchrysler.com) CALL HALIFAX CHRYSLER FOR DETAILS!

Visit [Metronews.ca/movies](http://Metronews.ca/movies) to get showtimes, read reviews and watch trailers.



17

# Movies & Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

## Movies

### He's back



Pg 18

## Movies

Pg 19



Too many stars clutter up Valentine's Day plot.

## Music

Pg 22



Steven Page dishes on first post-Barenaked Ladies CD.

## Television

Pg 24



Stephen Colbert ready for his Olympians to compete.

## "YOU'LL FALL IN LOVE WITH 'VALENTINE'S DAY.'"

Tanya Kim, CTV, E TALK DAILY

**"HILARIOUS, CHARMING AND IRRESISTIBLE."**

Jeanne Wolf, PARADE

# VALENTINE'S DAY





## New Lampoon's Vacation flick

New Line is pushing ahead with its quest to reboot the much-loved National Lampoon's Vacation franchise. The studio has hired writing team Jonathan Goldstein and John Francis Daley to write a new Vacation flick. [EMPIREONLINE.COM](http://EMPIREONLINE.COM)

## Movies

\*\*\*\*\* A CLASSIC; \*\*\*\* EXCELLENT; \*\*\* GOOD; \*\* FAIR; \* POOR

# V-Day a little crowded

Star-studded cast offers a few compelling stories, some not

## Valentine's Day

**Director:** Garry Marshall

**Stars:** Julia Roberts, Jamie Foxx, Anne Hathaway, Jessica Biel

**Classification:** STC

**Rating:** \*\*\*

On the web 

- For movie trailers, screen times, photos — and to buy tickets — visit [metronews.ca/movies](http://metronews.ca/movies)

## NED EHRBAR

Metro World News

For his new romantic omnibus Valentine's Day, director Garry Marshall brings together an overwhelmingly impressive cast, including Julia Roberts, Ashton Kutcher, Anne Hathaway, Jamie Foxx, Jennifer Garner, Patrick Dempsey, Jessica Biel, Bradley Cooper, Jessica Alba, Topher Grace, Shirley MacLaine, Taylor Swift and Taylor Lautner.

It's an embarrassment of A-list riches. But so many big stars playing so many characters with so many Valentine's Day-related issues to work out makes the movie feel more than a little crowded. And while there's certainly something for

everyone in the interconnecting story lines, Valentine's Day suffers from a supreme lack of focus.

At the core of the film are a few very compelling stories played out by very charming actors, but there's too much else going on for the film to stop and give them the time they need. The hopeless romantic florist (Kutcher) oblivious to his fiancée's (Alba) cold feet, his best friend (Garner) discovering the hard way that her perfect boyfriend (Dempsey) isn't so perfect — these work. But Swift and Lautner hog up far too much screen time as dim high schoolers with nothing to contribute in a plot line that seems cynically designed to pull in their respective fans.



Jessica Biel, left, and Jaime Foxx, centre front, star in Garry Marshall's impressively casted romantic comedy Valentine's Day.

And a note to the filmmakers: When you have a character who can't get a date and uses chocolate as a coping mechanism, don't cast Jessica Biel. No one will believe it.

## Uzbek film director convicted of slander

**LEGAL** An Uzbek film director was convicted of slander on Wednesday for making a documentary on wedding rituals in the authoritarian ex-Soviet state, but released on amnesty, the artist and her lawyer said.

Umida Akhmedova said the court in the Uzbek capital, Tashkent, found her guilty of slander and "of-

fence through mass media."

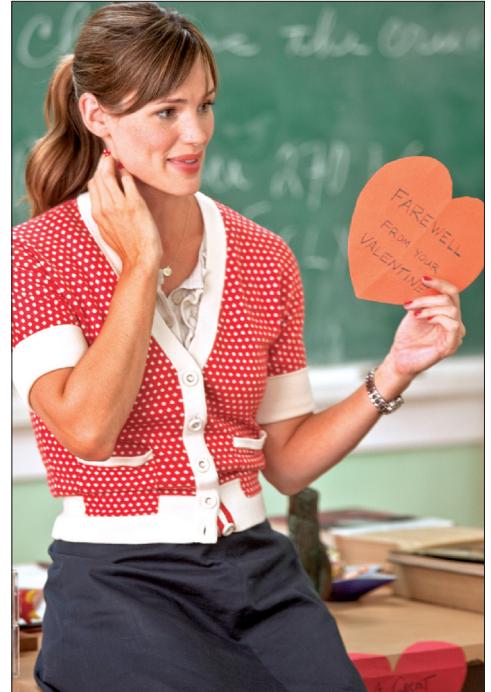
Akhmedova's film, The Burden of Virginity, describes hardships young women face in the mostly Muslim nation during and after the traditional nuptial ceremonies, including the public demonstration of a bloodstained bedsheet after the first night.

The film has never been

shown in Uzbekistan, but is available online.

Akhmedova's public trial before Judge Bekzod Irmaev used a conclusion of government-appointed experts that found her film "offensive for the Uzbek nation" and a media campaign that lambasted her films and photographs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jennifer Garner's character, Julia, in Valentine's Day discovers the hard way that her boyfriend isn't so perfect.



For February 11<sup>th</sup>

909 - Girlicious - Over You

909 - Hedley - Don't Talk To Strangers

909 - Boys Like Girls - Two Is Better Than One

909 - Black Eyed Peas - Imma Be

909 - Jason Derulo - In My Head

909 - Young Money Ft Lloyd - Bedrock

909 - Drake Ft Kevin Cossom - I Get Paper

909 - Justin Bieber - Baby

909 - Ke\$ha - Blah Blah Blah

### WE WANT YOU!

You could guest host the Interactive NINE@9 with Kid Craig.

[kidcraig@1013thebounce.com](mailto:kidcraig@1013thebounce.com)

[1013 THEBOUNCE.COM](http://1013THEBOUNCE.COM)

101.3 THE BOUNCE

## 20 movies&amp;entertainment

## Reel Time

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

Obvious plot sinks *Wolfman*The *Wolfman*

**Director:** Joe Johnston  
**Stars:** Benicio Del Toro, Anthony Hopkins, Emily Blunt  
**Classification:** STC  
**Rating:**

**PHIL BROWN**  
 for Metro Canada



Wolfman stars Benicio Del Toro as its troubled protagonist.

The blockbuster *Wolfman* remake arrives on screens this weekend after countless delays (including the original director quitting shortly before shooting began). That's never a good sign, but with a cast that includes Benicio Del Toro and Anthony Hopkins along with some stunning Gothic production design, it at least looked like the project had a shot at working.

Sadly, it doesn't. Though the filmmakers get a number of elements right, they can all be admired on the poster. Once the movie starts playing, disappointment sets in.

The failure of this edition of *The Wolfman* comes down to the writing. The simple story about an involuntary and tortured monster has been expanded into a ludicrous murder mystery that barely hangs together.

Benicio Del Toro's troubled protagonist returns home follow-

ing the death of his brother, greeted by an impossibly evil father (Anthony Hop-

## Movie review

kins, introduced with a silly suspicious grin that he doesn't drop until the credits roll) and the news that a werewolf is stocking his town. Unsurprisingly Del Toro is bitten by the monster and becomes prone to full moon rampages.

Admittedly whenever the *Wolfman* appears there's fun to be had, but tragically most of the movie is wasted unravelling a rather obvious murder plot.



## Percy Jackson is a pricey, miscast mess

## Percy Jackson And The Olympians: The Lightning Thief

**Director:** Chris Columbus  
**Stars:** Alexandra Daddario, Steve Coogan, Logan Lerman  
**Classification:** STC  
**Rating:**

**PHIL BROWN**  
 for Metro Canada

**REVIEW** Hollywood has been paying a lot of attention to young adult fantasy novels following the success of the Harry Potter and Twilight franchises.

Percy Jackson And The

## Movie review

*Olympians: The Lightning Thief* is the latest attempt at a young adult cash cow and one that probably won't continue beyond a single movie. If the unwieldy title doesn't scare away viewers, then the poorly paced screenplay and celebrity miscasting should do the trick. A great deal of money was clearly spent trying to launch this franchise, but sadly it all went to waste.

The film is about a young boy who discovers he is the son of the Greek

Uma Thurman plays Medusa in *Percy Jackson And The Olympians*.

God Poseidon, leading the teen into a secret society

in the woods that inexplicably seems to be under constant training for battle. The combination of teen fantasy and Greek mythology may have seemed exciting on the page, but feels undeniably silly onscreen.

It certainly doesn't help that in an attempt to lock up big names for sequels a few well-known actors have been painfully miscast. Uma Thurman manages to outdo her overacting in *Batman And Robin* as Medusa and Pierce Brosnan dons some epic facial hair as an unlikely centaur.

near the filmmaker, who directed the first two films in the J.K. Rowling series and produced the third.

"It's nothing like Harry Potter," he told the New Zealand Herald. "I wouldn't have gotten involved in a picture that was too similar to Potter. I hadn't seen a film like this before and that was the reason I wanted to do it."

In fact, other than with sequels, he rarely repeats himself. His resume as a writer (*Gremlins*), producer (*Jingle All the Way*) and director (*Rent*) reveals a variety of styles and topics. He's no stranger to comedy, having helmed the *Home Alone* movies; no stranger to romance, as he proved with *Only the Lonely*, no

**Escape From New York** remake

New Line appears ready to commit to getting the remake of John Carpenter's cult sci-fi action picture *Escape From New York* back on its feet and striding on the path to our screens, with a script by Allan Loeb. [EMPIREONLINE.COM](http://EMPIREONLINE.COM)

## Director Columbus is full of surprises

## InFocus

## Richard Crouse

[metronews.ca/infocus](http://metronews.ca/infocus)

stranger to teen fare or musicals and in between those he's covered most other genres.

Nestled among his blockbusters are a number of deserving, lesser known titles.

In the comedy *Heartbreak Hotel* he added a chapter to the mythology of Elvis Presley. Starring Tuesday Weld — The King's Wild in the Country co-star — and David Keith as Elvis, the movie centers on Johnny Wolfe's (Charlie Schlatter) scheme to kidnap the singer and bring him home to cheer up his ailing mom (Weld).

It's very silly but Elvis fans will enjoy the sly tributes sprawled throughout — Weld's motel is called The Flaming Star — and a soundtrack ripe with new versions of Elvis chestnuts like *That's All Right* and *Hound Dog* performed by Keith David and polka kings The Bavarian Village Band.

As a writer Columbus prepped himself for eventually helming the *Potter* movies by penning *Young Sherlock Holmes* and the *Pyramid of Fear*.

Directed by Barry Levinson, the story of young Holmes and Watson meeting and solving a boarding school mystery is primarily notable as the first movie to feature a completely computer-generated character in the form of a knight created from a stained glass window.

Columbus is a restless storyteller who can't be pinned down. He's someone who blazes his own path and takes chances. I mean who else would cast Uma Thurman as a snake-haired Medusa?

Richard Crouse's *Movie Show* can be seen every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. on the E! Channel; [mrchaos33@hotmail.com](mailto:mrchaos33@hotmail.com).

**CRUSH!** **GENTLY LOVED 2009 GRAND CARAVAN SE's**

7 pass, 2nd & 3rd row Sto'N Go fold into the floor seating, power windows, locks, heated mirrors, keyless entry, cruise control, climate control, rear a/c & heat, roof rack, tilt steering, stereo w/cd-mp3, halogen lamps.

**\$15,980 or \$62/wk\***

**PAYMENT INCLUDES TAXES!**

\* Taxes, admin & licensing additional. Includes Guaranteed \$1000 Trade. \*Payments include taxes, fees & Guaranteed \$1000 Trade. 50 down 50 due each.

**OUR COSTS ARE LESS SO WE SELL FOR LESS!**

**CRUSH! GENTLY LOVED 2008 SUZUKI SWIFT +**

5 pass, 4 speed auto, air, am/fm stereo w/cd, 5 pass, tilt, dual air bags, power steering, almost 50mpg hwy.

**\$6,480 or \$29/wk\***

**WHILE THEY LAST!**

**PAYMENT INCLUDES TAXES!**

**Steele**

**MAKE NO MISTAKE**  
 There is only ONE Steele Chrysler!

**CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP**

**Kempt Rd. & Livingstone St., Halifax**  
**Ph: 454-7341 • [www.steelechrysler.com](http://www.steelechrysler.com)**





## Music

# Turning the Page

GRAHAM ROCKINGHAM  
for Metro Canada

**A Singer Must Die.** The title of Steven Page's new CD may make Barenaked Ladies' fans cringe.

Is Page talking about himself?

Or is it that other guy, Ed Robertson, the one who's still with the Ladies, the one Page used to duet with on *If I Had A Million Dollars*?

Neither, actually. It's simply the name of a Leonard Cohen song that Page cov-

ers on the new CD (which lands in stores Tuesday). Nothing more. Nothing less.

Well, OK, maybe Page is being a tad mischievous. It's his nature.

"There was a certain amount of irony that wasn't missed when we were choosing that title," Page says from his new home near Syracuse, N.Y.

*A Singer Must Die.* The Cohen song is one of ten covers on the album, which Page has recorded with Andrew Burashko and his classical chamber ensemble,

the Art of Time. The album is a mixed bag of songs that include Jane Siberry's *The Taxi Ride*, Rufus Wainwright's *Foolish Love*, Elvis Costello's *I Want You* and Radiohead's *Paranoid Android*.

It's not the type of record most artists would use to launch a new solo career. It's not a pop record designed for air play.

Timing, however, didn't give Page much of an option. The album and its accompanying tour was planned before the infa-

mous drug bust that would result in Page leaving the Barenaked Ladies.

Back when it was conceived in the spring of 2008, *A Singer Must Die* was supposed to be just a side project. At the time Burashko's ensemble was doing a series of concerts with guest vocalists. The Page concert went so well live, they decided to record a studio version and release a CD.

Then came the coke bust. It happened near Syracuse at the apartment of Page's girlfriend Christine Benedicto. They got off with little more than a rap on the knuckles from the trial judge. Publicity-wise, however, the timing was horrendous: Barenaked Ladies had just released a children's CD. Page announced his departure from the band and his side project with Burashko turned into



*A Singer Must Die* is the title of Steven Page's first solo album.

the first album of his new solo career.

**A singer  
Must Die  
is out on  
Tuesday**

in March.

"We don't talk often," Page says of his former bandmates.

The bust was the immediate impetus for his split with BNL. But Page believes it was inevitable.

"Things had certainly been breaking down for a couple of years. We probably weren't as up front with each other as we were in (earlier) times. We were all pretty unsure about what we wanted to do and whether we wanted to stay together."

**443-3474**

*Bringing you Quality, Service, Variety and Value since 1948.*

**Valentine's Day Specials**



- 2 Live Or Cooked 1.25 - 1.5lb Avg Lobsters
- 1lb 16/20 Ct Jumbo Shrimp Cooked
- 1 Box Of Chocolates
- 1 Lobster Cracker
- 2 Plastic Lobster Piks
- 2 Bibs & 2 Placemats
- 2 Wet Naps

**\$39.99** | **\$59.99**

VALID FEB. 12 - 14

*Fisherman's Market 607 Bedford Hwy.  
Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun. 11am-6pm*

*Bring in this ad and receive \$5.00 Off one of these specials!*

## Secrecy behind Internet ban

### SoundCheck

**Alan Cross**

metronews.ca/soundcheck

Back in November, I wrote about ACTA, the secret anti-counterfeiting trademark agreement involving Canada, the U.S., Mexico, the EU and nine other countries. Representatives have been meeting behind closed doors for two years to hammer out a treaty that will inevitably affect every single person on the Internet.

Yet there has been almost zero transparency. None of the draft texts have been made public and those outside the inner circle are bound by tough non-disclosure agreements.

This doesn't mean there haven't been some leaks.

Aside from measures to fight counterfeiting, there have been discussions about a worldwide "three strikes" rule. Accused (not caught, proven or convicted) of file-sharing music three times by an aggrieved rights holder, and you're banned from the Internet. For life.

Internet service providers and telecoms would be liable for copyright infringements by their users. To avoid prosecution, that means they'll have to find some way of sniffing through all the data — YOUR data — that passes through their pipes.

And even though you may have a legitimate right to, say, ship a music file from point A to point B, there's the potential for red flags at the ISP. Accused three times (not caught, proven or convicted) and you're done. Not just with your current ISP, either. They'll be required by international law to publish your

name to an Internet no-fly list will prevent you from ever having an Internet account in your name ever again.

And it gets better. Within the document is a second called Border Measures. There's the real possibility that some border guard will have the power to make you prove all those music files on that iPhone in your pocket are, in fact, not pirated. Can't do it? Bye-bye, iPhone. Oh, and you could be charged and fined.

This is more than just file-sharing for stopping fake Louis Vuitton bags. It's about privacy, civil liberties, and legitimate use of the Internet for commerce and innovation.

Be informed. Read what the Electronic Frontier Foundations says at [eff.org/issues/acta](http://eff.org/issues/acta).

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at [ongoinghistory.com](http://ongoinghistory.com) and [exploremusic.com](http://exploremusic.com)

## WE WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD!



OUR CUSTOMERS ARE #1

**FAIRLEY & STEVENS**

580 WINDMILL RD., DARTMOUTH  
1 800 463 1220

Since 1948

**482-8222**  
[www.fairleyandstevens.com](http://www.fairleyandstevens.com)

**Focus S Model**  
**Focus SE**  
**FROM \$12,999\*\* | \$123 BI WEEKLY**  
**0% PAPR FOR 60 MONTHS**

**2010 Escape XLT**  
**FROM \$19,999\*\***

\*\*excludes freight and taxes.

Forget the activation charge.  
**SAVE \$35!**

**MEMBERS GET**

# **MORE STUFF.**

Get three months of voicemail and call display at no charge. A \$30 value.



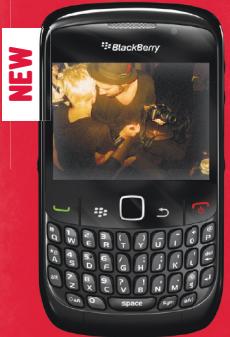
**BlackBerry Bold 9700**

**\$149.99**



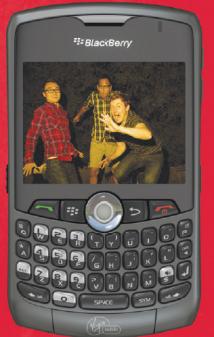
**BlackBerry Curve 8530**

**\$24.99**



**BlackBerry Curve 8530**

**\$24.99**



**BlackBerry Curve 8330**

**\$0**



**BlackBerry Pearl™ Flip**

**\$0**

On plans starting at \$25/month with 3-year agreement and a data plan. Check [virginmobile.ca](http://virginmobile.ca) for more details.



**IT'S BETTER TO BE A MEMBER**

We're Canada's highest ranked mobile company and the 2009 recipient of J.D. Power and associates' "Highest in Customer Satisfaction with Postpaid Wireless Service".



For full offer details go to [virginmobile.ca](http://virginmobile.ca). Taxes extra. Some phone models and colours may not be available at retailers. Retailers may sell for less. "Virgin Mobile" and the Virgin Mobile logo are trade-marks of Virgin Enterprises Ltd. and used under license by Virgin Mobile Canada. BlackBerry® and related trademarks, names, and logos are the property of Research In Motion limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world. J.D. Power and Associates 2009 Canadian Wireless Customer Satisfaction StudySM. Study based on 15,207 total responses from consumers with postpaid wireless service, measuring 9 wireless service providers. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed in October 2009. [www.jdpower.com](http://www.jdpower.com)

## 24 movies&amp;entertainment

## Television



Buy one coffee, get a second cup on us.

Valid only at participating Second Cup locations from February 12 to February 15, 2010. Buy a medium size brewed coffee and receive a medium size brewed coffee for free. Offer is limited to one free medium size brewed coffee with purchase per voucher. Voucher has no cash value and is not valid with any other offer.

## Baby girl upstages Idol

**REALITY TV** The American Idol group auditions proved to be a drama of two dads. When yesterday's episode had ended, Michael Lynche, known as "Big Mike," was the proud father of a newborn baby girl and had made it into the next round of the singing contest.

But Seth Rollins of Lakeland, Fla., who had hoped to make a better life for his autistic son and who performed with Lynche and two other contestants, was cut by the judges.

Lynche, of Astoria, N.Y., missed out on being at his wife's side as she delivered their daughter and instead monitored the birth by phone.

"Hi, baby girl," he heard his wife say, then dropped his head into his arms. With his fellow group members standing by, he turned back to the competition. "Still got work to do," the new father said.



Lynche ended up among the 71 contestants moving on to the next round, out of 96 that started the night. A number of those cut left in tears.

"This was a dream, you know, and I was really hoping it would come true," said ousted Mark La Briola.

New judge Ellen DeGeneres and Simon Cowell, who had played nicely on Tuesday's show, had a brief clash of personalities Wednesday. When a contestant complained vaguely of "hardship," DeGeneres helpfully tried to explain that a member of the singer's group had quit abruptly before their audition.

"That happens in life. It's not a hardship. It's rubbish," Cowell replied.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Austrian filmmakers have Oscar ambitions

**AWARDS** Austria, known more for Mozart than movies, is hoping to make it big at the Oscars next month.

The birthplace of action megastar Arnold Schwarzenegger is also increasingly a film awards juggernaut. The three Academy Award nominations for Austrians announced this month are a source of pride for the small country, whose films and actors are getting renewed attention from Oscar after watching from the wings for years.

"Anybody who knows a little bit about films knows about Austria," said Geoff Andrew, an expert at the British Film Institute.

**"Anybody who knows a little bit about films knows about Austria."**

Geoff Andrew, British Film Institute

Christoph Waltz, the front-runner for best supporting actor for Quentin Tarantino's *Inglourious Basterds*, is perhaps the most high-profile of the Austrians in contention.

Director Michael Haneke and cinematographer Christian Berger,

meanwhile, are in the running for best foreign language film and best cinematography for their work on *The White Ribbon*, a disturbing black-and-white drama submitted by neighbouring Germany, presenting a sombre study of a troubled village on the eve of the First World War.

Austrians — or those with links to the country — were generally irrelevant at the Oscars for decades. Haneke and Waltz

are the biggest names, but in the last several years the Alpine nation of roughly 8.3 million has

had a regular seat at the ceremony. In 2008, Stefan Ruzowitzky took home the foreign-language Oscar for *The Counterfeiters*.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Valid only at participating Second Cup locations from February 12 to February 15, 2010. Buy a medium size brewed coffee and receive a medium size brewed coffee for free. Offer is limited to one free medium size brewed coffee with purchase per voucher. Voucher has no cash value and is not valid with any other offer.

The fifth season of *Friday Night Lights* will be its last, multiple sources confirm. Sources say the NBC has informed the show's cast that they're free to pursue other work after production on season 5 wraps in June. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Last run for *Friday Night Lights*

## Ready to take on Canada

Colbert's got his game on

Like many of the athletes vying for gold in Vancouver, Stephen Colbert's Olympic training has been eventful.

He has already auditioned for the U.S. bobsled, skating and curling teams. He has angered a sizable portion of Canada. And he has landed on the cover of Sports Illustrated's Olympic preview.

Now, he's preparing for the big event. While *The Colbert Report* is in repeats next week, the comedian will be in Vancouver for the first week of the

Olympics.

He'll be there recording a wealth of material for his show (to air beginning Feb. 22),

attending events, conducting interviews and doing a kind of half-show from a stage set up outside the Olympic centre.

"We'll bring snow because I don't think Vancouver has any," he said in an interview, taking a swipe at the city's sometimes watery precipitation.

He has called Canadians "syrup-suckers," "Saskatche-whiners," and said Canadian history is a euphemism for a sex act so depraved, he can't say it on TV.

Colbert still jokes that he's going to Vancouver to find out "What is Canada? Or more importantly, why is Canada?"

But now that foreign athletes have received more ice time in Vancouver, Colbert says, "I've given Canada. . . I'm there to celebrate Canada at this point."

But for all of his satire, it's clear Colbert has a gen-

**"I'm really in awe of what (the athletes) do and I want to be there to support them."**

Stephen Colbert

and the Iraq war (he did a week of shows from Baghdad in 2009), Colbert has made himself a key figure for the XXI Olympic Games, which start Friday.

When the U.S. Speedskating team lost its primary sponsor last fall (the Dutch bank DSB went bankrupt), the Report stepped in with a novel idea. The show's ardent fans had previously raised sizable amounts of money for charity, and the show suggested that the Colbert Nation could sponsor the skaters.

Fan donations filled the vacancy by raising more than \$300,000. Colbert Nation is branded on the team's suits and Colbert has had an active relationship with the squad.

Many Canadians, though, have been put off by Colbert's frequent mockery. As a pseudo pundit, Colbert likes to elevate the U.S. above all other countries, making the Olympics — which he calls a combination "talent popularity-contest war" — prime fodder for parodic patriotism.

He has called Canadians "syrup-suckers," "Saskatche-whiners," and said Canadian history is a euphemism for a sex act so depraved, he can't say it on TV.

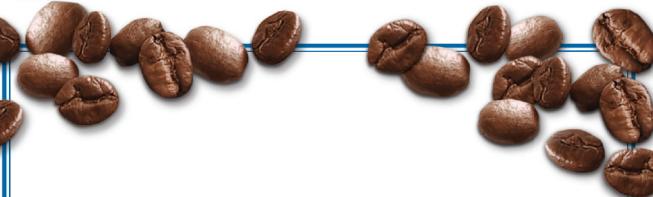
Colbert still jokes that he's going to Vancouver to find out "What is Canada? Or more importantly, why is Canada?"

But now that foreign athletes have received more ice time in Vancouver, Colbert says, "I've given Canada. . . I'm there to celebrate Canada at this point."

But for all of his satire, it's clear Colbert has a gen-



Last November Colbert, right, announced his show had become the primary sponsor of the U.S. Speedskating team.



If you treat your boss to a better cup of coffee are you still late?

Use the coupon above to find out.



## Entertainment in brief

**WE WANT BETTY** More than 188,000 people on Facebook are urging Saturday Night Live to make Betty White a host. The 88-year-old actress was recently given a lifetime achievement award at the Screen Actors Guild Awards and starred in a Super Bowl commercial for Snickers that

has ranked as one of the game's most popular. The Facebook page, which isn't affiliated with White, says she would be a "fantastic" host and that it would be a terrific way to honour her. White and NBC have had no comment on the idea.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Jackson wants medical records

**LEGAL** A judge in Los Angeles will rule next week on whether Michael Jackson's father can obtain medical records related to the death of his superstar son.

Joe Jackson's attorney, Brian Oxman, sought the records as part of an effort to obtain a monthly

stipend for the Jackson family patriarch. He says his client has a right to know more about his son's death and the records could also be used to pursue a wrongful death lawsuit. Jackson's estate opposed releasing the records. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Television

## Canada is ready to win, Williams

**The true keeper of Canada's Olympic flame is no secret. It is Brian Williams, prime-time host of Vancouver 2010 Winter Games.**

Vancouver will mark the Winnipeg native's 13th Olympics — 11th as broadcast host.

Williams says he is astounded by how far Canada has come, both as a team of athletes and as a host nation.

"It's a different feeling this time," says Williams.

"At Calgary and Montreal you got the feeling the athletes were just happy to be home. Here they are happy to be home but they expect to win at home. It's a very different mindset."

Canada won just five medals in 1988 in Calgary and, as in Montreal in 1976, no gold. But in Turin at the last Winter Games, Canada won 24 medals. Only Germany and the United States did better.

"People stop me in the street and say, 'Do you re-

ally think we can finish first overall?'" he says. Williams thinks that might be a stretch but he sees Canada in the top three at least.

Even the Americans are taking note of the changes, says Williams.

"USA Today said last week (Canadians are) no longer our friendly northern neighbours, they want to beat us."

He singles out Erik Guay in the men's downhill and Jennifer Heil in moguls



CTV's Brian Williams

freestyle as two Canadians who could strike gold as early as Saturday.

The medal count could soar, he says. "You'll see numbers we've never dreamed of."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**FRIDAY**

cable variety

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
prime time 2/12/10	31	31	31	ABC	News Center	World News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	Spider-Man 2 *** (2004, Action) Tobe Maguire, James Franco.			
	7	7	7	ASN	CTV News (N)		XXI Winter Olympics Opening Ceremony. (HDTV) (Live)					
	11	11	11	CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	Marketplace	CBC News: The fifth estate	CBC News: The National (N)	The Hour (N)	
	32	32	32	CBS	WBZ News (N)	Evening News	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Surviving Survivor	Undercover Boss	NUMB3RS	
	6	6	6	CIHF	Entertainment	ET Canada	Spider-Man 2 *** (2004, Action) Tobe Maguire, James Franco.				News Final (N)	
	9	9	9	CJCH	CTV News (N)		XXI Winter Olympics Opening Ceremony. (HDTV) (Live)					
	36	36	36	FOX	Seinfeld	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	House "Brave Heart"	Kitchen Nightmares	Fox First	
	12	12	12	NBC	News	NBC News	Olympic Zone	XXI Winter Olympics Opening Ceremony. (HDTV) (Live)				
	55	55	55	SCOR	HSR	Covers	Aussie Millions '09		WWE SmackDown!		X-Fighters	
	53	53	53	TSN	SportsCentre	Countdown Canada	Vancouver 2010 Opening Ceremony.		XXI Winter Olympics Opening Ceremony.			
sports	16	16	16	A&E	CSI: Miami "Shattered"	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Criminal		
	70	70	70	APTN	Journey: Paddle-Quatsun	Countdown Canada (N)			XXI Winter Olympics Opening Ceremony.			
	37	37	37	BRVO	Emily of New Moon	Des McAnuff-Life-Stages	Bravo!FACT Presents	Corner Gas	Corner Gas	White Collar (N)	Dexter	
	49	49	49	COM	Just for Laughs	Air Force	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Comedy Now
	18	18	18	CNN	(6) The Situation Room With Wolf Blitzer (N)			Campbell Brown (N)	Larry King Live (N)	Cooper 360		
	38	38	38	DISC	Cash Cab	How It's Made	Daily Planet (N)	Dirty Jobs	Man vs. Wild "Alaska"	Flying Carrier		
	34	48	48	HGTV	Extreme Makeover: Home	House	Property	House	Location, Location, Location	House Hunt		
	46	46	46	HIST	Sinking an Aircraft Carrier	Ancients Behaving Badly	Nostradamus Effect	Nostradamus Effect	Assault on Precinct 13 (2005, Action)			
	17	17	17	MM	Love Court	My Date	The Vampire Diaries	The Prince & Me ** (2004, Romance-Comedy)		At the Base		
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:30) Wolf *** (1994, Horror)		(8:40) The Wolf Man (1941, Horror)		Slap Shot (1977, Comedy-Drama)			
	39	39	39	SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Relic Hunter	Lava Lamp (2008, Suspense)	Valerie Bertinelli	Kenny vs.		
	40	40	40	SLICE	What	Wedding SOS	Rich Bride Poor Bride	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	
	21	21	21	TLC	Dress	What Not to Wear	What Not to Wear	What Not to Wear	What Not to Wear	Say Yes		
	22	22	22	W	House-Sell	Supernanny	How to Look Good Naked		10 Things I Hate About You (1999, Comedy)			
	27	27	27	YTV	iCarly	Just My Luck *	(2006, Romance-Comedy) Lindsay Lohan, Chris Pine.		Fries That?	Prank Patrol		

**SATURDAY**

cable variety

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
prime time 2/13/10	31	31	31	ABC	News Center	World News	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets *** (2002, Fantasy)			
	7	7	7	ASN	XXI Winter Olympics	Skiing, Freestyle Skiing, Short Track Speed Skating, Hockey, Medals Ceremonies. (Live)						
	11	11	11	CBC	National	Hockey Night	NHL Hockey	Philadelphia Flyers at Montreal Canadiens. (HDTV) (Live)		NHL Hockey		
	32	32	32	CBS	WBZ News (N)	Evening News	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Wedding Crashers *** (2005, Comedy)	48 Hours.		
	6	6	6	CIHF	rebel	Jane Show	A Valentine Card (2007, Romance)	Emma Caulfield	Love-Death	G-Spot	News Final (N)	
	9	9	9	CJCH	XXI Winter Olympics	Skiing, Freestyle Skiing, Short Track Speed Skating, Hockey, Medals Ceremonies. (Live)						
	36	36	36	FOX	Friends	Friends	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Cops (N)	Cops (N)	America's Most Wanted	Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News	Paid Program	Paid Program	XXI Winter Olympics	Speed Skating, Freestyle Skiing, Skiing, Medals Ceremonies. (Live)			
	55	55	55	SCOR	MMA Show	Footy Show	WWE Vintage Collection		Score Rewind	Cabby Unlimit	Score Now	Hockey Sat.
	53	53	53	TSN	XXI Winter Olympics	Ski Jumping, Speed Skating, Freestyle Skiing, Hockey. (HDTV) (Live)						
sports	16	16	16	A&E	Manhunters	Manhunters	CSI: Miami (HDTV)	CSI: Miami (HDTV)	CSI: Miami (HDTV)	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		
	70	70	70	APTN	The Journey	Dallas Sooniens.	Flame	Jeux olympiques d'hiver	XXI Winter Olympics	Hockey. (Live)		
	37	37	37	BRVO	Arts & Minds	Bravo!Videos	Spectacle: Elvis	Star Portraits	Books/Film	A Few Good Men *** (1992, Drama)		
	49	49	49	COM	VIP	Bet Your Ass	Comedy Now	Corner Gas	Jeff Dunham	The Simpsons	South Park	John Oliver
	18	18	18	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer	Newsroom		Black in America "Tomorrow's Leaders"		Newsroom		
	38	38	38	DISC	Cash Cab	How It's Made	Cash Cab (N)	Destroyed	Destroyed	Dirty Jobs "Sheep Castrator"	Verminators	
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes in Homes		Flipping Out		Million Dollar Listing	Property	Price	Makeover
	46	46	46	HIST	Ancients Behaving Badly		Nostradamus Effect	Cities of the Underworld	A Mighty Heart (2007, Docudrama)			
	17	17	17	MM	The Vampire Diaries		The Prince & Me ** (2004, Romance-Comedy)		Love Court	My Date	At the Base	
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:10) The Dead Zone		Runaway Train ** (1985, Action) Jon Voight.		The Silence of the Lambs (1991)			
	39	39	39	SHOW	Howie Do It	About a Girl	Slings and Arrows	Nightmare at the End of the Hall (2008, Drama)		Hot Rod		
	40	40	40	SLICE	Til Debt-Part	Real Housewives of Jersey	Real Housewives of Atlanta		Real Housewives, Orange	Project Runway		
	21	21	21	TLC	LA Ink "Back's		LA Ink (HDTV)		LA Ink (HDTV)	LA Ink	LA Ink	
	22	22	22	W	The Notebook ** (2004, Romance)	Ryan Gosling, Rachel McAdams, James Garner.				The Lake House ** (2006, Romance)		
	27	27	27	YTV	Kid vs. Kat	League-Evil	Zeke's Pad	Prank Patrol	Amer. Funniest Home Videos	That's-Weird	Prank Patrol	Survive This

**SUNDAY**

cable variety

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
prime time 2/14/10	31	31	31	ABC	News Center	World News	Amer. Funniest Home Videos	Amer. Funniest Home Videos	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition (N)			
	7	7	7	ASN	CTV News (N)	XXI Winter Olympics	Freestyle Skiing, Figure Skating, Luge, Medals Ceremonies. (Live)					
	11	11	11	CBC	Heartland (DVS)	Booky's Crush (2009, Drama)	Megan Follows.		CBC News: The National	Doc Zone		
	32	32	32	CBS	PGA Tour Golf	WBZ News (N)	60 Minutes (HDTV) (N)	The Amazing Race 16	Undercover Boss (N)	Cold Case (N)		
	6	6	6	CIHF	16-9 Picture	Family	Shark Tank	The Simpsons	Cleveland	Family Guy	American Dad	News Final (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	CTV News (N)	XXI Winter Olympics	Freestyle Skiing, Figure Skating, Luge, Medals Ceremonies. (Live)					
	36	36	36	FOX	Cold Case		Til Death (N)	Til Death (N)	The Simpsons	Cleveland	Family Guy	Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News	NBC News	XXI Winter Olympics	Figure Skating, Freestyle Skiing, Luge, Skiing. (HDTV) (Live)				
	55	55	55	SCOR	Score Today		The WWE Experience	MMA Fight Night		Score Now		
	53	53	53	TSN	(6) XXI Winter Olympics				NBA Basketball 2010 All-Star Game. (HDTV) (Live)			
sports	16	16	16	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Criminal	Olympics	
	70	70	70	APTN	Thin Ice		XXI Winter Olympics	Hockey. (Live)				
	37	37	37	BRVO	Spectacle: Elvis		Ari & Minds	Bravo!FACT	Life of Glenn Gould	Shakespeare in Love *** (1998)		
	49	49	49	COM	VIP	Bet Your Ass	Laughs	For Laughs	Comedy Now	The Simpsons	South Park	John Oliver
	18	18	18	CNN	Newsroom		MythBusters	The Great Sperm Race	Black in America "Today's Pioneers"		Newsroom	
	38	38	38	DISC	Cash Cab	How It's Made	House	My First Place	Bang, Bang	Holmes Inspection	House-Bryan	
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes Inspection		House	My First Place	Bang, Bang	Holmes Inspection	House-Bryan	
	46	46	46	HIST	Ice Pilots NWT (HDTV)	Ancient Discoveries		Cities of the Underworld	The Rock *** (1996, Action)			
	17	17	17	MM	Make It or Break It	America's Best Dance Crew		So You Think You Can Dance		At the Base		
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:15) Driven * (2001, Action)		(8:20) Shattered (1991, Suspense)		The Bourne Identity (2002, Suspense)			
	39	39	39	SHOW	Mighty Heart	Kirk in Hair	Cra\$h & Burn		A Valentine Carol (2007, Romance)	Emma Caulfield.	Damages (N)	
	40	40	40	SLICE	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt Do Us Part		Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	
	21	21	21	TLC	American Chopper	American Chopper		Tiger Woods				
	22	22	22	W	Lake House	Hwd 10 Best	Supernanny	Come Dine With Me		The Obsession (2006, Suspense)		
	27	27	27	YTV	Ever After: A Cinderella Story *** (1998, Romance)			Family Biz	Fries That?	Fries That?	Survive This	

CLUB METRO

WEEKLY

REWARDS



From the director of *Pretty Woman* comes a day in the life of love.

JESSICA ALBA KATHY BATES JESSICA BIEL BRADLEY COOPER ERIC DANE PATRICK DEMPEY HECTOR ELIZONDO JAMIE FOXX JENNIFER GARNER TOPEH GRACE ANNE HATHAWAY ASHTON KUTCHER QUEEN LATIFAH TAYLOR LAUTNER GEORGE LOPEZ SHIRLEY MACLAINE EMMA ROBERTS JUDY ROBERTS TAYLOR SWIFT

VALENTINE'S DAY

2:12:10

YOU COULD WIN

A PAIR OF RUN OF  
ENGAGEMENT PASSES TO SEE  
VALENTINES DAY!



To register and for full contest details visit clubmetro.com

Celebrating Valentine's Day...

# Love Letters

Metro readers are a romantic bunch. When we asked you to submit your sweet nothings, we were deluged with love letters that would even make cupid blush. Here are some of our favourites



AT LEFT:

COLIN AND EUNICE, HALIFAX

Happy Valentine's Anniversary to my hubby Colin! Let's go for another 10 years!

- EUNICE

AT RIGHT:  
CORALIA, HALIFAX

Sweet 'Stache & Sugar Lips. Happy love day, bubs. <3 C.

- CORALIA

AT LEFT:  
JULIE AND ANDRE,  
HALIFAX

My love,  
No matter where we are,  
your smile is my smile...  
and our love will go on for  
miles and miles.

Your love, xox.

- ANDRE

## Yay! metro's kooolest

The Best Halifax has to Offer

Metro News and 96.5 Kool FM want YOU to weigh in on the city's coolest places to eat, party, shop – you name it!

Go to [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca) or [kool965fm.ca](http://kool965fm.ca) to register your choice for this month's category:

**Metro's Koollest Family Doctor!**

One lucky player will win a prize pack valued at over \$100!



Do it daily.

We Play Anything.  
**KOOL**  
96.5 FM

A FASHION/DANCE SHOW PRESENTING SPRING FASHIONS FOR LADIES, MEN, AND CHILDREN FROM LOCAL MERCHANTS AND DESIGNERS.

HALIFAX  
*Dance*  
PRESENTS

## fashion 'n mot!

EVENT ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
Penelope Evans SpicerThe Lord Nelson Hotel and Suites  
Tickets: \$100 • \$175 per couple

A benefit for Halifax Dance offering a cocktail reception, scrumptious hors d'oeuvres, wine tasting, silent and live auctions and much more!

422.2006 • [halifaxdanceassoc.ns.ca](http://halifaxdanceassoc.ns.ca)**FEBRUARY 20, 2010**

PRESENTING SPONSOR

PRINT MEDIA  
SPONSOR**The Coast**  
HALIFAX'S WEEKLY

PRINT SPONSOR

**Minuteman**  
Press HalifaxWINE TASTING  
SPONSOR**Bishop's**  
Cellar

HAIR BY

**thumpers**Exploring your  
post-secondary  
options?Include AU  
too.

AU student Magdalena in Burlington, Ontario, Canada

### Athabasca University transfer credits increase academic choices.

■ At Athabasca University, our large selection of online post-secondary courses add to the academic choices that can be offered. ■ Having extra course options has been an ideal fit for Magdalena, who's attending a university in Ontario. In addition to taking courses at her home university, she's also taking some additional courses at Athabasca University, and is on track to complete her degree a year early. ■ AU has more than 37,000 students and offers over 700 courses and 90 undergraduate and graduate degree, diploma and certificate programs to select from. ■ Transferability. Another reason why AU stands out as a global leader in distance learning excellence.

**standout** • [www.athabascau.ca/standout](http://www.athabascau.ca/standout)  
1-800-788-9041

Athabasca University

# Gear Up for the Games



The Official Vancouver 2010 Canadian Olympic Team Replica Apparel. The entire assortment now in store and exclusively available at the Hudson's Bay Co.



Canada Full Zip Hoody  
\$50.00

Pom Toque  
\$20.00



Quilted Jacket  
\$100.00

Hockey Jersey  
\$135.00



Canada Scarf  
\$20.00



Turtleneck Sweater  
\$60.00



Red Mittens  
\$10.00



Puffy Vest  
\$70.00



Knit Hat  
\$30.00



Canada Tee  
\$20.00



Canada Beanie  
\$15.00



Canada Jacket  
\$100.00



Backpack  
\$30.00



Melton Ball Cap  
\$20.00

*Thank you for supporting our athletes.*

the



OUR GIFT TO YOU. GET A FREE LIMITED EDITION VANCOUVER 2010 CANADIAN OLYMPIC PIN WITH A MINIMUM \$50 PURCHASE! ONE PER CUSTOMER, WHILE QUANTITIES LAST. ONLY AT THE BAY.

# 28 movies&entertainment

Becker welcomes a son

It's a boy for tennis ace Boris Becker and his wife Sharley "Lilly" Kerssenberg. The pair, who wed in June, welcomed a son, Amadeus Benedict Edley Luis Becker, in London on Feb. 9. Becker confirmed to German newspaper Bild. [TVGUIDE.COM](#)

## Going Out

Metro's **7th Heaven**: Metro taps what's hot right now

**1**

### Vancouver 2010 Olympics

**EVENT** Canada's moment of pride is finally here. The games kick off today and the hopes of gold-medal glory are sky high right now. CTV is covering the event.

**2**

### Amreeka

**DVD** New immigrant stories either tend to be ridiculously upbeat or terribly depressing. Not Amreeka. This tale of a Palestinian mother and son's journey to America keeps a sense of humour without losing reality.

**3**

### Bioshock 2

**GAME** Given the pervasive weirdness of the series, it's a little surprising that it has become so popular. The game is set in the fictional dystopian city Rapture, eight years after the events of BioShock.

**4**

### One Life Stand: Hot Chip

**ALBUM** The geeky British electro-pop band may not have the oomph, but they are the closest you'll get to Pet Shop Boys-era grooves these days. Their latest trolls out more bleepy party-starters.

**5**

### Ellen DeGeneres

**CELEBRITY** Her daytime show may already be a hit, but Ellen DeGeneres is proving that her ratings magic also applies to the comedienne's new primetime gig. Viewership for American Idol was up by double digits (12 per cent) during last Tuesday's premiere, and DeGeneres earned lofty praise from co-host Kara DioGuardio who said "I think she did an incredible job."

**6**

### The Wolfman

**FILM** To be honest, Universal's update of Lon Chaney Jr.'s 1951 classic doesn't look too promising. But here are the alternatives: The all-you-can-eat mush of Valentine's Day, or the kiddie clamour of Percy Jackson & The Olympians: The Lightning Thief. See, B-grade horror heaven doesn't look that bad after all.

**7**

### Sweet Little Lies: Lauren Conrad

**BOOK** Apparently there's life after reality shows. A pretty good one at that. The Hills star follows up her successful debut novel L.A. Candy with another shot of saccharine fluff. Sweet Little Lies continues the Hollywood adventures of Conrad's alter-ego Jane Roberts — which really means more words spent on parties and shopping.

## Mix of Six

### Sexy Laundry

When: Through Sunday  
Where: Neptune Theatre

This funny and fast-paced 90-minute play looks at a wife trying to rekindle the passion in her marriage after 25 years. Tickets are \$28 to \$45.

### Doc Walker

When: Friday, 8 p.m.  
Where: The Schooner Room, Casino Nova Scotia

The popular Juno Award-winning Canadian country music trio will perform all their hits. Tickets are \$42.

### Little Ray's Reptile Zoo

When: Through Sunday  
Where: Exhibition Park  
This popular zoo for families will be in town for shows featuring Keisha the

Tiger and Lady-Chomps-A-Lot the Alligator. Visit [raysreptiles.com](#) for details.

### Premier Basketball

When: Sunday, 4 p.m.  
Where: Halifax Metro Centre.

The Halifax Rainmen go against Manchester Millrats. Tickets are \$29 and \$25.

### Deric Ruttan

When: Saturday, 8 p.m.  
Where: The Schooner Room, Casino Nova Scotia

This Nashville singer draws comparisons to Bruce Springsteen. Tickets are \$31.

### Flamenco Valentine

When: Through Sunday, 8 p.m.  
Where: FRED Beauty  
The Maria Osende Flamenco Company performs. Tickets are \$37.

## Apartment Finder

To advertise contact Krista Rodgers at 421-5861

**Crown**  
ON REGENCY

### Clayton Park's Newest Luxury Apartment Building

Crown on Regency is just minutes away from downtown, located in the brand new Mount Royale subdivision.

- \* Granite Kitchen countertops
- \* Individual storage lockers
- \* Laminate floor living areas
- \* Six appliances
- \* Heat and hot water included
- \* Barrier free suites available
- \* Underground parking
- \* Social room & Fitness Room

Call 293-2933

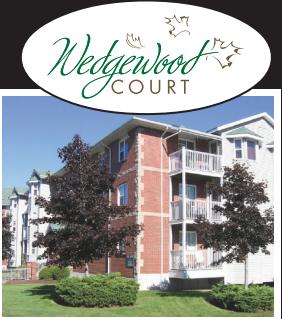
**W M FARES**  
GROUP  
Architects/Engineers/Project Managers

Visit [halifaxapartments.ca](#) today!

### Your own country hideaway in the middle of the city!

Wedgewood Court offers a peaceful, country-like atmosphere in the middle of the city.

- \* Renovated 1, 2 & 3 bedroom suites
- \* Close to all amenities
- \* Heat, hot water & parking included
- \* Underground & visitor parking
- \* 3 bdrm with washer/dryer hookups
- \* Immaculate walking trails
- \* Private park & tennis courts
- \* Children's playground



Call 880-4455

## HOMBURG

**461-HOME (4663)**  
Renting apartments since 1972

**Windmill Road, Crystal Drive area & Highfield Park**  
Fantastic Dartmouth locations close to where you work!

**Monthly leases available**

**1 Bedrooms** from **\$570.00**  
**2 Bedrooms** from **\$615.00**

**5% Discount** to DND, Convergy's, Burnside and Dartmouth Crossing Employees\*

Ask about our referral program!  
\*Some restrictions apply

**THIS JUST IN:**  
4-CAR COLLISION  
DOWNTOWN...  
NO, WAIT...  
MAKE THAT 5.

**INSTANT NEWS**  
UPDATES ON  
YOUR PHONE.  
FROM AROUND THE GLOBE  
TO AROUND THE CORNER,  
GET UP-TO-THE-MINUTE  
COVERAGE WITH METRO MOBILE.  
[m.metronews.ca](#)

### Thinking of Moving? Think Highfield Park Apartments

Spacious Newly Renovated 1 bedrooms from \$565, 2 bedrooms from \$650

- Variety of layouts and flooring options
- Most units include heat, hot water and balcony
- Fireplace in select units
- Large in-suite storage
- Centrally located on major Metro Transit bus route
- No security deposit for those aged 55+

**Furnished Suites as low as \$39.99 per day**  
(based on 1 bedroom, 12 month lease, other terms available) \*conditions apply

First 20 weekend showings receive a \$5.00 Tim Horton's gift card\*

**HIGHFIELD PARK**  
1.888.288.9942  
96 Highfield Park Drive, Dartmouth  
[www.oxfordresidential.ca](#)

**"I LOVE THIS PAPER"**

"This app is a great way to read Metro when on the go" - Real user review  
The free Metro Canada application is available on the App Store.  
Don't have an iPhone or iPod touch?  
Visit [m.metronews.ca](#) for news on the move.

Available on the  
App Store

[metronews.ca](#)

**NEED YOUR OWN SPACE?**  
Find it at [universalproperties.ca](#)

**UNIVERSAL**  
PROPERTIES.CA

1190 Barrington Street Halifax 425-8877  
BUILDING EXCELLENCE FOR OVER 15 YEARS

## Fortune shines on INXS again?

J.D. Fortune is rejoining INXS for an Olympic bow in his home country. The Pictou Co. native has posted on his website that he'll be fronting the Aussie rock band when they take the stage at Vancouver's BC Place on Feb. 24. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# A Valentine's song just for you

## Valentine's Day

**JON TATTRIE**  
for Metro Canada



**Earning a living as a full-time musician can be a tough gig, so it's no wonder Halifax singer Ryan MacGrath can be yours for a song — literally. MacGrath auctioned off the composition of an original love song for Valentine's Day.**

Bidding was fierce at [ryannmacgrath.com](http://ryannmacgrath.com) and even after the winner was announced, a second would-be Romeo hired MacGrath to write him a birthday gift. MacGrath will now write a song

based on the winner's own love story and create an original painting for the CD case.

He said the idea came when he had some down time before his full-length debut album *Cooper Hatch Paris* drops in May. "I like the challenge. I like the notion of going outside of myself and ultimately having to write something more universal," he explained. "When I'm writing my own songs, it tends to be very personal. Something like this, it gets me out of my own head and my own fear and forces me to think in a broader way."

He's done commissioned songs in the past and is he's eager to do more. He can be hired via

his website.

"I love the idea of having the audience contribute to the music they will ultimately listen to," he said.

The song was bought for a mere \$200 by Halifax businessman Michael Christie. He met with MacGrath early this month to give him the raw materials to turn into tune by Valentine's Day. Christie had seen MacGrath perform before and loved his Rufus Wainwright-esque songs.

MacGrath will write about Christie's romance with Nicholas, his husband of three years. Their first Valentine's Day eight years ago set the bar low, with Nicholas offering Michael a hotdog-shaped

card.

"It was the tackiest Valentine's card you could possibly find. It looked like something Homer Simpson would buy," Michael Christie said. "Maybe this year we'll be inspired to at least listen to the song and have a nice glass of wine."

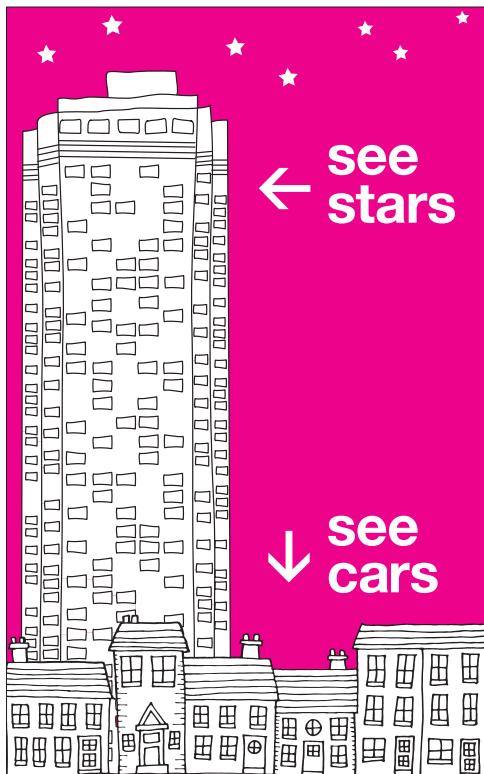
Always the businessman, Christie hopes it'll accrue in value. "Maybe one day when he's successful, I'll have a very early song that was commissioned just for me," he said. If not, it'll surely appreciate in sentimental value. Christie imagines coming across the CD 40 years from now. "After we figure out how to play it, we'll be like, 'Hey, it's that song!'"



Musician Ryan MacGrath auctioned off a song for one lucky couple this Valentine's Day.

## Apartment Finder

To advertise contact Krista Rodgers at 421-5861



## now renting

apartments starting as low as \$615/month  
407.5599 | [FenwickTower.ca](http://FenwickTower.ca)

come see for yourself

**TEMPLETON | PROPERTIES**  
Halifax's 1st Choice for Apartments

**POWER FENWICK**

## DRAMA. SUSPENSE. COMEDY.

Visit [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca) to watch  
**metrotube** of the day

The video everyone's  
talking about.

## SUNSET TOWERS

**Fully Furnished Suites**  
located on Lake Maynard in  
Downtown Dartmouth, near  
Penhorn, Woodlawn and  
Mic Mac Malls.

- Fully Equipped Kitchens
- Fridge/Stove/Microwave
- All Utensils/Cookware
- Coffee Maker & Toaster
- Linens/Laundry Facilities
- Free Parking
- TV with VCR & DVD, Cable TV
- Computer Desk & Halogen Light
- Individual Security Safes
- Internet & Utilities Included
- Maid Service (extra)

Daily, Weekly, Monthly  
**SUNSET TOWERS SUITES**  
341 Portland Street,  
Dartmouth B2Y 1K7  
T: 464-1114 F: 464-1124  
[sunsettowers@accesscable.net](mailto:sunsettowers@accesscable.net)



The Best Kept Secret  
on Spring Garden Road

- Hardwood flooring, hand carved walnut doors and trim
- 5 stainless steel appliances & granite countertops
- In-floor radiant heat, air conditioning & heated garage
- Jacuzzi baths, multi jet showers

2 Bedroom Suite Available,  
Luxuriously furnished  
5750 Spring Garden Road  
Call 461-4663 for private viewing



## JOIN metrolife panel

Give us your opinion on  
various topics and  
enter for your chance to  
**WIN**  
great monthly prizes.

Become a  
member today!

[metrolifepanel.ca](http://metrolifepanel.ca)

Ideal Location  
for Students

## Quinpool Towers & Quinpool Court

1 Bedrooms From \$795  
2 Bedrooms From \$950  
3 Bedrooms From \$1400

Includes heat & hot water

Close to universities, groceries  
& amenities

On-site Resident Managers

Underground parking available

Ask about our rental incentives

**423.9161**



[killamproperties.com](http://killamproperties.com) | tsx:kmp



Welcome Home to Capreit Apartments!

### Ocean Brook Park

40 Charlotte Lane

(across from Fisherman's Market)

Stylish, spacious and

welcoming suites.

1, 2 and 3 bdrm

starting from \$745

(902) 404-4440

**ONE MONTH'S FREE RENT**

### Park Victoria

1333 South Park Street

Premier address with

outstanding views.

1, 2 and 3 bdrm

starting from \$1,375

(902) 404-7676

**ONE MONTH'S FREE RENT**

### Somerset Place

1030 South Park Street

Spacious suites in a

convenient location.

Bachelor, 1, 2 and 2 bdrm

starting from \$800

(902) 404-7575

[WWW.CAPREIT.COM](http://WWW.CAPREIT.COM) • [RENTALS@CAPREIT.NET](mailto:RENTALS@CAPREIT.NET)

## 30 movies&amp;entertainment



Emily Blunt hates airbrushing. The star is proud of her curvy figure and wants to show it off, femalefirst.co.uk reports. She said: "I hate when your legs are three times the length they actually are. It's unfair." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Blunt says no to airbrushing

## Celebrity Buzz

## Kardashian goes from Super Bowl to producing

## I GUESS ANYONE CAN DO IT

Now that her boyfriend has won a Super Bowl, Kim Kardashian has a new goal:

To produce TV shows. "I definitely see myself doing a lot more (producing)," she says. METRO NEWS SERVICES

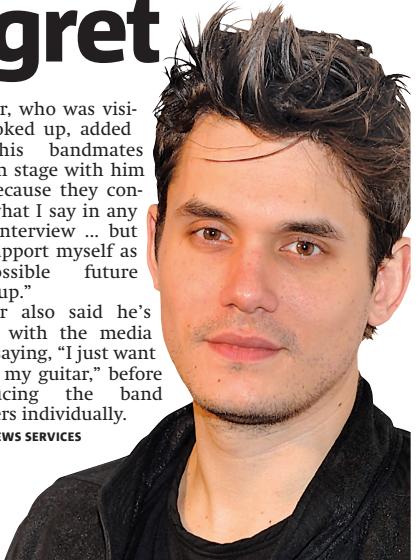


## Mayer's eyes wet with regret

Mayer, who was visibly choked up, added that his bandmates were on stage with him "not because they condone what I say in any given interview ... but they support myself as a possible future grown-up."

Mayer also said he's "done" with the media game, saying, "I just want to play my guitar," before introducing the band members individually.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



## 'I SWEAR I DIDN'T MEAN TO SAY THE WORDS THAT I SAID' (INSERT TEARS)

Amidst criticism for his comments in a Playboy interview — including racist remarks and racy details of sex with Jessica Simpson — John Mayer issued a tearful apology at his concert in Nashville on Wednesday night, people.com reports.

Wringing his hands on stage, the troubled guitarist told his audience at the Sommet Center that he fell into "a wormhole of selfishness, greediness and arrogance" and "in the quest to be clever, forgot about the people who love me and that I love."

## Willis' Die Hard rep follows him

THEY DON'T MAKE ACTION HEROES (OR MOVIES) LIKE THEY USED TO Bruce Willis claims drunken guys always try to start fights with him, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The 54-year-old actor gets annoyed by men who want to challenge him in bars because of his tough guy persona. "It took me a long time to understand that a

lot of guys wanted to be the guy who kicked John McClane's a—," he said about his Die Hard character.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Ellen's undies make big splash in Patrick Dempsey's pants

ELLEN IS ALWAYS GOOD FOR SOME SUPPORT Most people would grimace getting underwear for a present — but not Patrick Dempsey, usmagazine.com reports. On Thursday's Ellen DeGeneres Show, the Valentine's Day star, 44, says he can't stop wearing Ellen undies.

"It is a great gift," he says. "You get this wonderful gift that says 'Ellen' right here on the band. It is fantastic underwear."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

## CelebTweets

**TILA TEQUILA** wants another baby, Amy Winehouse is a Glee, and Nicole Richie's sense of humour needs to grow up.

**@officialTila:** Any men out there who would like to be my next baby daddy?? This is quite addicting!

**@amywinehouse:** How cool is Glee? it's funny s@reminds me of school. wicked that they did rehab sounds the nuts. thanks Glee

**@nicolerichie:** WHY, no matter how old I get, are farts so f@!king funny!?!?

METRO NEWS SERVICES

**club metro**

## WEEKLY REWARDS

Buy Your Tickets NOW!  
Weekend Passes Available!

**COUNTRY ROCKFEST**

August 6th & 7th, 2010  
Halifax Common [www.countryrockfest.ca](http://www.countryrockfest.ca)

**Friday August 6th:**

- Johnny Reid
- George Canyon
- One More Girl

**Saturday August 7th:**

- Alan Jackson
- Billy Currington
- Kevin Costner & Modern West
- Lonestar

Tickets On Sale NOW:  
Ticket Atlantic Box Office, Atlantic Superstores,  
Online: [www.ticketatlantic.com](http://www.ticketatlantic.com) / Phone: 902-451-1221

**YOU COULD WIN A PAIR OF WEEKEND VIP PASSES TO THE COUNTRY ROCKFEST 2010!**

PRIZE ALSO INCLUDES A PAIR OF MEET & GREET BACKSTAGE PASSES FOR AUGUST 6TH AND 7TH!

Visit **clubmetro.com**  
to redeem your rewards!

To register and for full contest details visit [clubmetro.com](http://clubmetro.com)

**Dreaming of an Alaskan cruise?**

Your experience begins at [Expedia CruiseShipCenters.com](http://Expedia.CruiseShipCenters.com)

**ALASKA CRUISE NIGHT • WEDNESDAY FEB. 17 AT 7PM**

Join us & the Princess Cruises Representative for an informative evening. Please RSVP: 404-7447 • 1-877-887-7447 [halifax@cruiseshipcenters.com](mailto:halifax@cruiseshipcenters.com)

**Expedia cruise ship centers**

©Aeroplan is a Registered Trademark of Aeroplan Limited Partnership.



**PRINCESS CRUISES**  
*escape completely®*



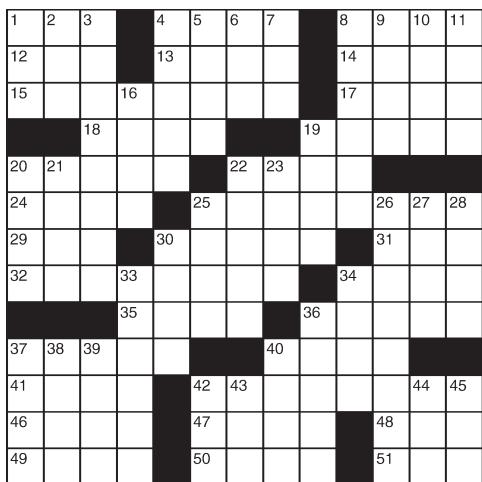
Today  
Flurries  
2° / -2°



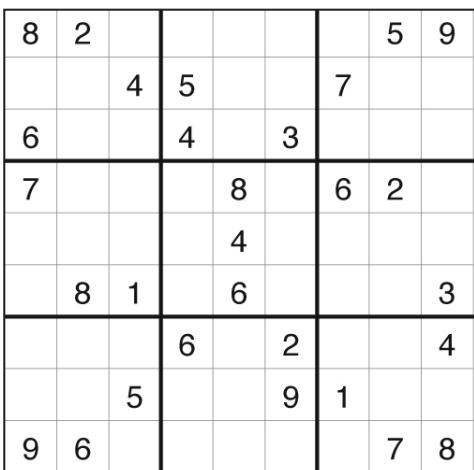
Saturday  
Variable  
1° / -4°



Sunday  
Variable  
0° / -4°

For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: [metronews.ca/food](http://metronews.ca/food)**Sudoku**For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

**HOW TO PLAY:** Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

**ACROSS**

1 Dined  
4 Last year's  
frosh  
8 Actor Pitt  
12 Hawaiian gar-  
land  
13 Greek vowel  
14 Continental  
coin  
15 Collar style  
17 From the be-  
ginning  
18 Hastens  
19 Church  
musicmaker  
20 Unyielding  
22 Disappear  
slowly  
24 Spotted  
25 Grand view  
29 Past  
30 Helicopter  
blade  
31 Ump  
32 Almond con-  
fection  
34 Trucker on  
the radio  
35 Cain's victim  
36 Snapshot  
37 Canine

**DOWN**

1 Matterhorn or  
Jungfrau  
2 Golfer's prop  
3 Having only  
two choices  
4 Temptress  
5 "My bad"  
6 Sch. org.  
7 — Solo  
8 Carrier  
9 Ladder part  
10 Neighborhood  
11 This direction

**PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:**

M	O	L	D	N	U	T	T	R	I	O
E	P	E	E	A	S	H	E	L	D	
N	E	A	R	V	A	R	E	U	L	E
U	N	R	I	P	E	G	O	S		
M	A	B	E	L	Y	A	M	B	A	L
A	R	E	S	V	I	M	B	L	A	B
R	E	D	J	O	N	S	U	E	D	E
V	A	L	L	E	Y	G	I	R	L	
I	O	T	A	N	O	B	O	D	Y	
W	A	N	E	G	O	D	E	G	E	
A	G	E	S	E	W	E	U	R	A	L
D	O	N	S	R	E	X	S	E	L	L

4	3	7	8	6	2	1	5	9
2	1	9	5	3	4	7	6	8
6	5	8	7	9	1	3	4	2
3	2	5	6	4	7	9	8	1
1	7	4	9	2	8	5	3	6
8	9	6	3	1	5	4	2	7
9	8	2	1	5	3	6	7	4
5	4	1	2	7	6	8	9	3
7	6	3	4	8	9	2	1	5

**On the web**For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)**Horoscopes by Sally Brompton** [sallybrompton.com](http://sallybrompton.com)For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)**ARIES****MARCH 21-APRIL 20**

The current cosmic climate is encouraging you to think deeply about who you are and what you do in the world.

**LIBRA****SEPT 23-OCT 23**

You will get the chance today to understand what makes someone tick. According to the planets it's important to know why they think and act.

**TAURUS****APRIL 21-MAY 21**

It is not enough that you know something needs to be changed — you must have the courage to go out and change it yourself.

**SCORPIO****OCT 24-NOV 22**

Someone in a position of authority is about to make you an attractive offer but because it means cutting back on your social life you may not be sure.

**GEMINI****MAY 22-JUNE 21**

You don't lack for self-belief but it will take more than that to realize your dreams, and you know it.

**SAGITTARIUS****NOV 23-DEC 21**

Focus on things you understand today and avoid issues where your knowledge is sketchy or limited.

**CANCER****JUNE 22-JULY 22**

You may look confident on the outside but on the inside you are plagued by self-doubt, although at the moment that may be no bad thing.

**CAPRICORN****DEC 22-JAN 20**

Tell the truth as you see it today, even at the risk of upsetting your nearest and dearest. Some issues are too important to be swept under the carpet.

**LEO****JULY 23-AUG 23**

You are the kind of person who can talk yourself in to or out of anything and today you should talk yourself into taking a trip away.

**AQUARIUS****JAN 21-FEB 18**

Don't expect the people you live or work with to read between the lines of what you are saying.

**VIRGO****AUG 24-SEPT 22**

Just because something is fashionable does not mean it is right and you would be wise to meditate on that point today.

**PISCES****FEB 19-MARCH 20**

What you fear the most is what you have least to fear. Venus in your sign from Thursday should set your mind at rest.

**BOWLARAMA**

**REDEEM FOR 1 FREE STRING AT OUR 3 METRO LOCATIONS!**

[bowlarama.ca](http://bowlarama.ca) • 453-BOWL (2695)

Expires FEB 28/10 Limit one person per day during public bowling times. Not valid with group booking. Shoe rental not included. No cash value. We reserve all rights.

**HAKIM OPTICAL**

**FREE OR FREE LENSES**

With purchase of any frame in the store.

**PLUS! You can share your Free 2nd pair with someone you love!**

**Over 150 Discount Outlets... 110 One Hour In-Store Labs**

Start the New Year with a fresh New Look! See store for details.

**FLIGHT CENTRE** *Unbeatable*

**Puerto Plata**

7 Nights 4-Star All-inclusive

**\$570**

from + taxes & fees \$298

**I 866 967 5402 | flightcentre.ca**

Conditions apply. Ex. Halifax. Package prices are per person, based on double occupancy. Prices are subject to availability at advertising deadline and are for select departure dates. Prices are accurate at time of publication, errors and omissions excepted, but are subject to change. Taxes & fees include transportation related fees, HST and fuel supplements and are approximate and subject to change.

